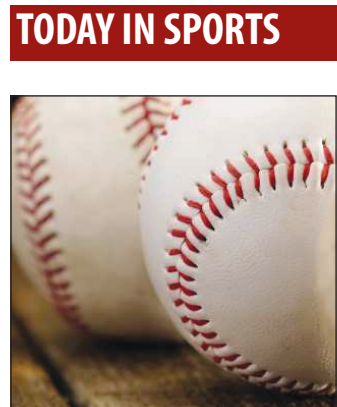


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# The PAMPA NEWS



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**\$1.50** Viewpoints: Bouncin' Around  
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 A new conspiracy is born | **p4**

**Optimist baseball opens**  
 Harvester baseball player recognized | **pB2-4**

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN



Photos courtesy of Charla Shults

Above, the softball team prepares to hit the road to Lubbock to take on the Maidens of Seminole in the bi-district round of the playoffs. The Lady Harvesters posted a 25-7 record through the regular season, including an 8-0 record through district. Right, the Lady Harvesters had their send-off parade Friday morning before heading south. The first game was last night and the next two, if both are necessary, begin tonight at 6 p.m. at Lubbock-Coronado. The Pampa News would like to wish the Lady Harvesters good luck on their playoff game.



## Hall of Fame nominations accepted through May 30

SUBMITTED

Nominations are currently being accepted for the Pampa High School Harvester Hall of Fame for the 2014-15 school year. Nominations will be accepted through May 30.

Nomination forms may be picked up at the Pampa Independent School District administrative offices at 1233 N. Hobart St., or downloaded from the Pampa ISD website at [www.pampaisd.net](http://www.pampaisd.net).

Nominations should be delivered to or addressed to Pampa Independent School District, Attention Karen Linder, 1233 N. Hobart St., Pampa, Texas 79065.

Nominees must have graduated from Pampa High School at least 10 years ago, be successful for a number of years in their chosen field, be an excellent citizen in the community in which they live, and they must be present at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Sept. 19.

All initiates will be selected by a committee comprised of the Pampa High School principal, student council sponsor, student body president, two Pampa High School alumni and a senior and junior student.

For more information, contact Karen Linder at 806-669-4700.

## FLOWER POWER



Submitted photo

Gray County 4-H youth are selling geraniums again this year to help support their activities during the year. 4-H Youth will be selling geraniums from 3 to 8 p.m., Thursday, May 1, and Friday, May 2, in the Pampa Mall parking lot. Colors include red, violet, pink, salmon and white in four-inch pots to transplant in planters or hanging baskets. If you can't make it either day, contact the Gray County Extension Office at 806-669-8033 to reserve an order. Monies raised will help support 4-H Youth in Gray County to participate and educate youth in project areas such as clothing, foods and nutrition, horse, shooting sports (air rifle, shot gun, archery), livestock and for competing on a district and state level. Come out and support the youth who will be the leaders of tomorrow.

## Lawsuit threatens to impact Texas CPS's reform efforts

BY TERRI LANGFORD  
 The Texas Tribune

On paper, Texas Child Protective Services, one of the nation's largest child abuse investigative and foster care teams, is a formidable agency, equipped with a two-year \$2.5 billion budget and about 8,000 employees.

But like most child welfare agencies in other states, it has had its share of adversity. After a series of horrific child abuse cases on the agency's watch, CPS underwent a decade of reorganization, pilot programs and internal audits, as well as admonishments endured by agency officials trot-

ted before the Texas Legislature. Officials say agency reforms have made clear improvements.

"There are problems with CPS, but I remember what CPS looked like 20 years ago," said John Spacia, a former family law judge from San Antonio who 16 months ago was tapped to helm CPS's parent, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

He said he remembered "when the state didn't pick up a portion of foster care, and it was up to the counties and you had four kids that need protection. But the counties only had money for one."

**LAWSUIT** cont. on page 2



Graphic by Todd Wiseman

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# Lawsuit

Continued From Page 1

Since 2005, laptops and cameras have been placed into the hands of investigators in the field. And there is a current four-year effort to replace the agency's creaky record-keeping software. This year, for the first time, the agency has outside consultants looking at its operation. There is also a plan in the wings to privatize foster care.

Although much of its funds come from federal dollars, CPS's budget remains stout. Its current two-year budget is nearly \$800 million more than what was approved for 2006-07.

But the agency still faces problems. And what is causing significant unease in the agency is a federal court case in Corpus Christi that goes to trial Dec. 1. With no settlement talks in the works, officials fear the case could derail CPS's progress if the state loses.

In 2011, Children's Rights Inc., a New York-based advocacy group, filed a suit targeting the state's long-term foster care sys-

tem, a legal state known as permanent managing conservatorship, or PMC. The advocacy group says CPS keeps its charges for far too long, violating the children's constitutional rights.

"If the court grants the relief requested by Children's Rights, agency operations will be affected in a number of ways, depending on the order," CPS said in response to questions for a legislative review to come this summer. "The agency would likely be subject to long-term oversight by the court, as well as unknown expert panels empowered to make recommendations regarding agency operations."

The lawsuit says that many children in the system face abuse. "These children languish in state care even though as of August 2010, nearly three-quarters of children in the state's PMC were legally free for adoption," it reads.

In part, the Children's Rights lawsuit calls for a court monitor for CPS to enforce reforms that include raising standards for workers and setting lower caseload limits. The lawsuit also calls for the state

to quit placing children with no special needs in more restrictive, residential foster homes and for better staffing ratios in group foster homes.

"The situation is pretty dire, and it's not getting better," said Marcia Robinson Lowry, executive director of Children's Rights. "Although the tool we use is the court and the law, our goal is not to get a legal decision. Our goal is to change the system."

Tiffany Gorman, 19, was once a member of the plaintiff class in the lawsuit but has since aged out of it. The suit covers children currently in long-term foster care.

Gorman was placed in foster care after she was removed from her Amarillo home at age 11. In her first month with CPS, she said she was placed in 15 foster care homes.

"My mom was still kind of young and didn't know how to take care of me," she said.

Because her mother would not legally surrender her parental rights, Gorman, like many Texas foster care children, could not be adopted and remained in

foster care.

Today she lives in Dallas, where she works as a welder and forklift operator.

Specia notes that there are areas for improvement, but he added that there is no blanket violation of foster children's civil rights.

"Do we have problems in foster care? Yes. Can you find instances where bad things happen in foster care? Yes," he said. "Do we need to get kids moved through permanency faster? Absolutely."

But are all 28,000 in Texas' foster care system having their rights violated? That's not going to be easy to prove, he said.

Texas, he said, has made significant progress since 2006, when more money began coming to CPS.

Other states sued by Children's Rights lawsuits have been forced to comply with costly reforms, such as a court-ordered monitor, new computer systems and mandated reduced caseloads, which requires the hiring of more workers.

"In the 19 or so states Children's Rights sued before Texas, the average length of litigation exceeds 15 years," CPS said in its response to legislative review questions. "Only one state has exited its consent decree with Children's Rights in less than 10 years."

But Specia said he does not think the change Children's Rights lawsuits have brought in other states has been that dramatic.

"I do not see the child welfare systems in those states where they have won appreciably different than ours," Specia said. "I think the states become hamstrung by becoming part of a consent decree" that sets demands for states to meet.

He also said he believes the advocacy group will have a tough time proving its case.

"I don't think we benefit from being under a consent decree or a judgment, and I don't think we are violating children's constitutional rights. That is a very, very high standard," he said.

However, Specia acknowledged that if Texas loses before U.S. District Judge Janis Jack in its non-jury trial, it could cost taxpayers "hundreds of millions of dollars," depending on what CPS is ordered to do.

Lowry has heard this criticism before.

"Often we have a very constructive relationship with the state agency," she said. "More than one commissioner has said to me, 'Thank goodness for this court order. I couldn't get the money I need. I couldn't get the political leverage I needed without the order.'"

But Lowry also insisted that whatever expense incurred to correct basic agency standards is far less than pouring money into a system in which children remain in custody for years.

The agency continues to battle issues like high workloads for caseworkers, which now average about 19 a month for investigators and 30 for foster care workers, and the high caseloads force many to leave the agency.

There are also new pressures stemming from a robust state economy.

Job seekers are flocking to employment centers like Dallas and Houston. And the oil boom in West Texas and the Eagle Ford Shale, south of San Antonio, means rents are way up, taxing the salaries of caseworkers who make on average about \$37,000 according to CPS.

Despite the pressures, CPS under Specia's leadership has garnered less of the Legislature's scorn. His straightforward answers to lawmakers' questions and willingness to consider different approaches has earned him praise.

"I think you're doing a great job," state Rep. Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, said in a House Human Services Committee hearing this month.

## Energy Dept. welcomes fracking chemical disclosure

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The U.S. Department of Energy said Friday that it welcomes the decision by oil and gas industry supplier Baker Hughes to disclose all chemicals in hydraulic fracturing fluid. But Halliburton, a major competitor in the field, isn't committing to such disclosure.

Deputy Assistant Energy Secretary Paula Gant said that Baker Hughes' move "is an important step in building public confidence" and the department

"hopes others will follow their lead."

The oil and gas industry has said the fracking chemicals are disclosed at tens of thousands of wells, but environmental and health groups and government regulators decry a loophole that allows companies to hide chemical "trade secrets."

Houston-based Halliburton said Friday that it's studying the move by Baker Hughes, which is also based in that city.

Halliburton said it had an interest in protecting "our intellectual property and the substantial investment it represents" and will examine the new Baker Hughes format for its ability to protect such investments.

Baker Hughes said it now believes it's possible to disclose 100 percent "of the chemical ingredients we use in hydraulic fracturing fluids without compromising our formulations," to increase public trust.



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**DPS seizes more than \$816,000 pounds of meth**

SUBMITTED BY DPS

AMARILLO – The Texas Department of Public Safety conducted a traffic stop Wednesday on Interstate 40, yielding more than 22 pounds of methamphetamine valued at more than \$816,000.

At approximately 6:30 p.m., a DPS trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 1995 Toyota Corolla traveling eastbound on I-40, for a traffic violation, near Conway in Carson County.

The driver of the Corolla was identified as Leonardo Moreno-Aguilar, 26, of Sunnyvale, Calif. During the traffic stop, the trooper discovered liquid methamphetamine in plastic containers.

Moreno-Aguilar was placed under arrest for possession of a controlled substance, a first-degree felony, and booked into the Carson County Jail. The illegal drugs were allegedly being transported from Los Angeles to Charleston, S.C.

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## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Sunday	Monday
		
High 89 Low 53	High 74 Low 47	High 69 Low 44

**Today:** Partly cloudy with a high of 89. No chance of rain. Winds south southwest at 29 mph. Sunrise at 6:58 a.m.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy with a low of 53. No chance of rain. Winds south southwest at 25 mph. Sunset at 8:26 p.m.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny with a high of 74. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds west southwest at 29 mph. Sunrise at 6:56 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Mostly clear with a low of 47. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds west northwest at 16 mph. Sunset at 8:27 p.m.

**Monday:** Partly cloudy with a high of 69. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds northwest at 28 mph. Sunrise at 6:55 a.m.

**Monday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 44. No chance of rain. Winds north northwest at 16 mph. Sunset at 8:09 p.m.

# Obituaries

## Sondra Ann Sullins Lustgarten

Sondra Ann Sullins Lustgarten passed away peacefully on March 13, 2014. She was born on Sept. 12, 1939.



**Sondra Lustgarten**

Sondra led a full life and left a big footprint. Her marriage to her husband, Mike almost made it to 50 years. She adored her two children, Kevin and Lisa, and her three grandchildren, Ryan, 20, Maya, 15, and Alex 9. Also, left are her brother, Mike, sister, Deb, and many nieces and nephews. Her mother, Katherine is 94 and living in Amarillo.

Sondra was raised in Pampa by a close family with strong community ties. She was greatly influenced through participation in Girl Scouting and became involved with life-long friendships and the acquired knowledge and leadership skills that helped her throughout life. She played an active role with the regional GSA council.

She was in debate club. In college, Sondra studied theater arts and speech pathology obtaining a master's of

arts in the latter and applied her skills with children in a non-profit program for several years in Los Angeles. She was a disc jockey in college and enjoyed participating in theater productions.

Sondra met her husband in Los Angeles and married after a two year courtship. After her children arrived Sondra became active in the PTA, reading groups, music, theater, and many family activities including travel and camping. Sondra loved humor and laughter and enjoyed her friendships and activities until becoming ill. She had a penchant for thinking about, observing, and articulating solutions that helped resolve many issues we faced in our daily lives.

As her children grew older, she went to law school and practiced family law until 2001.

Sondra cared deeply about many issues and spoke out passionately and with conviction whenever she felt it was necessary. In later years, her joys were in watching her grandchildren blossom and she attended many of their activities. Sondra was lovingly cared for by her oncologists and their whole team at Overlake Medical Center in Bellevue, Wash.

She is deeply missed. If desired, donations can be made to the Overlake Hospital Medical Center Foundation and Auxiliaries (cancer care).

## For the record

# Amarillo man arrested for DWI, other charges

### STAFF REPORT

- Robert Kirk Douglas, 26, Amarillo, was arrested Thursday by the Department of Public Safety for DWI, disregarding a

stop sign, expired driver's license and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Jimmy Duane Burks, 41, Pampa, was arrested by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for criminal trespass.

- Christopher Charles

Bray, 35, Amarillo, was arrested by DPS for driving while license invalid, previous conviction.

- Juan Carlos Rodriguez, 22, McLean, was arrested by the GCSO for possession, delivery of drug paraphernalia and no

driver's license.

- William Joseph Sanford, 33, Oklahoma City, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, penalty group two, greater than 400 grams.

# CITY BRIEFS

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## A WELL-RECEIVED DONATION



Submitted photo

Fire Chief Sy Brown, left, of the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department was presented a \$2,000 donation from Phil Beavers, a representative of LINN Energy, for the betterment of the fire department. Many of our local business people, farmers, ranchers and private citizens have been donating to the fund to upgrade our equipment, Brown said. "On behalf of the Lefors VFD, I would like to thank everyone who is giving donations," he said.

## Former Iron Curtain still barrier for deer

PRAGUE (AP) — The physical fence came down a quarter century ago, new studies show.

Czechoslovakia, where the communists took power in 1948, had three parallel electrified fences, patrolled by heavily armed guards. Nearly 500 people were killed when they attempted to escape communism.

It was an impenetrable Cold War barrier — and for some inhabitants of the Czech Republic it still is. Deer still balk at crossing the border with Germany even though the

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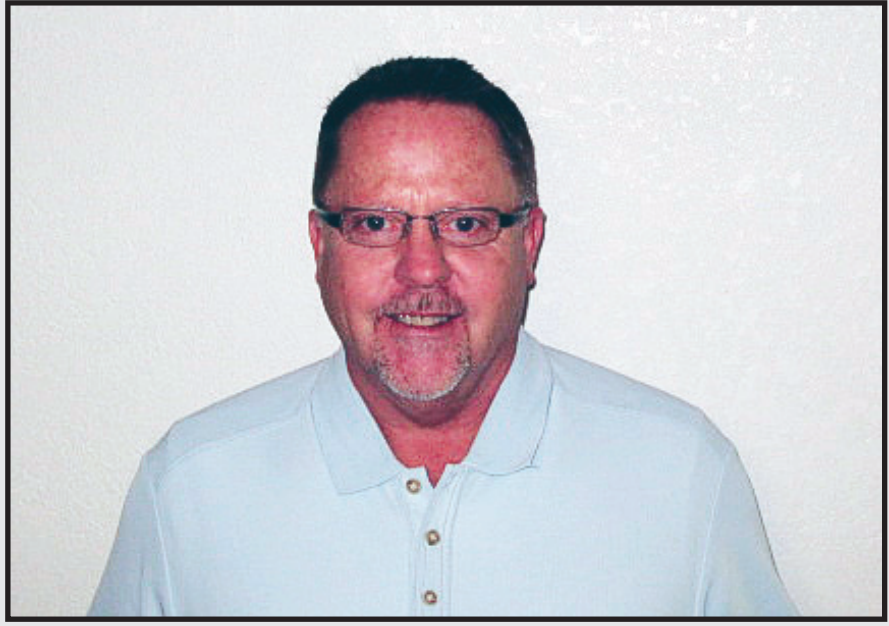
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# Viewpoints

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## Bouncin' Around

# The radio's role in my life

Two recent events have led up to this column. First, the radio antenna on our car was abruptly snapped off by our temperamental garage door. That car radio plays a very important role in our driving enjoyment. Fortunately, the friendly people at Culberson-Stowers were able to replace it quickly. The other event was my birthday, and the gift of an iPod Nano from my husband.



**JUDITH SMITH**

It's about the size of two postage stamps and fits handily in my pocket. I'm like a kid in a candy store browsing all the iTunes that are available!

As old codgers like us often do, we have been reminiscing about our own experience with radio listening. My husband, who grew up in Waukegan, Ill., remembered listening as a boy to Captain Midnight, Terry and the Pirates and Tom Mix.

There was a special series that was broadcast over several weeks during the Christmas season. "The Cin-

namon Bear" followed the adventures of Paddy O'Cinnamon as he searched for the Silver Star taken by the Crazyquilt Dragon. When our daughter was a child, WGN radio ran "The Cinnamon Bear" on Saturday afternoons, and she loved hearing it. She recently purchased the whole set and her children enjoyed it last Christmas, so three generations have grown up with one radio program.

As a child in California, living near California's version of Radio City, there was a wealth of programming available. Most of what we listened to were either news programs (our parents' choice) or programs my older brothers liked: The Lone Ranger, Roy Rogers, Superman, Buck Rogers, Boston Blackie, and The Thin Man. As a family we listened to Amos 'n' Andy, Abbott and Costello, Burns and Allen, Arthur Godfrey, Our Miss Brooks, Bob Hope and Jack Benny.

My grandmother listened to Ma Perkins until the show went off the air in 1960. Ron's more recent radio memories go back to before we were married when he would listen to a

program called "Music Till Dawn" on WBBM.

It was hosted by Jay Andres, a man with a honey-smooth voice, who played some classical and easy listening music. Ron would turn on the clock radio when he went to bed and let the music lull him to sleep. Another favorite was a program hosted by Mal Bellairs, "Sunday Afternoons." In my teenage years in southern California, most of my radio listening was either rock 'n' roll, or folk music.

I was never much of an Elvis fan, but I did like the Beach Boys, Kingston Trio, Limelighters and Jimmie Rodgers. When I was 18, I received my first transistor radio as a Christmas gift.

I felt like I had received a real treasure, and that radio and I were seldom separated for at least 10 years. In the last ten years that we lived in Illinois, we listened to WNUA, a "Smooth Jazz" station during the week, and on Saturdays we would listen to "Old Time Radio" on WGN. Now we are the proud owners of a vehicle with XM

**RADIO** cont. on page 5

## Letter to the Editor

# Meals on Wheels says thanks to community

The staff and board of directors of Pampa Meals on Wheels would like to thank everyone who helped make our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon a success. The entertainment by the Pampa High School Show Choir, under the direction of Fred Mays and Breanna Montgomery, was enjoyed by all and the delicious meal catered by Jason Dyer, who owns Chubby's, was excellent.

Last but certainly not least are the sponsors who provided Pampa

Meals on Wheels with the means to honor our volunteers and donors with this special occasion. Our sponsors this year were Carmichael-Whately; Duncan, Fraser & Bridges; Lewis Meers, CPA; Excel Production Co.; B&G Electric; J.E. Carlson; W.W. Fiberglass; Edward Jones Investments; Pampa Regional Medical Center and Cluberson-Stowers.

**Jeane Autry, director Pampa Meals on Wheels**

## Congratulations!

# A new conspiracy is born

With the happy news that Chelsea Clinton and Marc Mezvinsky expect their first child later this year, the Clinton family can anticipate warm good wishes from most Americans — and a less uplifting response from all of the usual suspects.

The inane, but mostly harmless, speculation from the pundit class already has begun. How will Hillary Rodham Clinton's prospective future as a grandmother, they ask, affect her potential candidacy for the presidency? (Not at all, except in the minds of the political geniuses who have never noticed that most presidents and many candidates were grandfathers.) Even more inane, a prominent columnist suggested on television that her daughter's announcement might actually be a scheme to "soften" Hillary's image and improve voters' opinions of her.

It is true, of course, that Bill and Hillary Clinton have persistently and sometimes publicly urged their daughter to produce a grandchild, in that slightly kidding, wholly serious way that almost all parents do with their married offspring. It is not true — except in the deranged fantasies of the minority of Clinton

haters in the press and on the political right — that any woman becomes pregnant in order to advance a parent's presidential campaign.

Indeed, like everything else the Clintons do — or that merely happens to them — Chelsea's impending motherhood is fodder for the perverse imagination of their critics. In the bizarre universe inhabited by such people, the Clintons are capable only of political calculation and conspiracy, rather than the range of human behaviors and emotions that all of us experience. These weird projections have always told us little about the Clintons and everything about the character of adversaries who don't hesitate to fabricate nonsense from nothingness.

Consider the latest moronic episode in the annals of the Hillary conspiracy starring a mentally disturbed woman who hurled a shoe at the former secretary of state during a speech. Within hours, a post on the Fox News website of "media analyst" Bernard Goldberg claimed that the shoe thrower had been inspired (paid?) by the Hillary camp to make her seem more presidential — like George W. Bush, who once had to dodge shoes thrown by an angry Muslim protester.

Although Goldberg has long posed as a journalism expert, his site continues to host this

**CONASON** cont. on page 5



**How To Write Us**

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## Political competition, not racism, changes voter alignments

Have the Republicans become the white man's party? Are the depth and bitterness of Republicans' opposition to Barack Obama and his administration the product of racism? Those are questions you hear in the clash of political argument, and you will hear plenty of answers in the affirmative if you click onto MSNBC or salon.com with any regularity.

You can find a more nuanced and thoughtful analysis in Jonathan Chait's recent New York magazine article, "The Color of His Presidency."

Chait, a liberal, starts off by noting that the post-racial America that Obama seemed to promise in his 2004 national convention speech and his 2008 campaign has not come into being.

On the contrary, "Race, always the deepest and most volatile fault line in American history," he writes, "has now become the primal grievance in our politics, the source of a narrative of persecution each side uses to make sense of the world."

Many liberals see racism in every criticism of the Obama presidency, even though, as Chait points out, Bill Clinton met with similar and in some cases more strident

opposition.

Conservatives, he argues, "dwell in a paranoia of their own, in which racism is used as a cudgel to delegitimize their core beliefs." Understandably so, given his description of liberals' "paranoia of a white racism."

Chait defends liberals by arguing that the debates on big government were inevitably produced by the Obama agenda and "there is no separating this discussion from one's sympathies or prejudices toward, and identification with, black America."

But he also admits that "advocating tax cuts is not in any meaningful sense racist." And he seems to ignore the argument that policies that directed large sums of money disproportionately at blacks — like the welfare programs from the 1970s to the 1990s, which the Obama administration is trying to partially resurrect — harm more than benefit their intended beneficiaries.

This is, after all, what House Budget Chairman Paul Ryan was getting at when he lamented "a culture, in our inner cities in particular, of men not working." The fact that Obama has made similar arguments didn't prevent Ryan from being excoriated as racist by some liberals.

On balance, Chait absolves Republicans (and Democrats) of the charge of racism. But he is one of many analysts, including some conservatives, who

have warned Republicans of the danger of becoming a party made up almost exclusively of white people.

That puts them at risk, the argument goes, of becoming a permanent minority in a nation with increasing percentages of Hispanics and Asians and with blacks voting almost unanimously for Democrats.

There's obviously some peril there. Mitt Romney won 59 percent of white votes in 2012, the same as George H.W. Bush in 1988. But with a smaller nonwhite electorate, Bush won 53 percent of the total popular vote to Romney's 47 percent.

History tells us that Republican presidential candidates have never won more than Romney's 59 percent of the white vote except in 1972 and 1984 when incumbent presidents were re-elected in landslides.

But history also tells us that until the 1940s (except during Reconstruction), whites constituted nearly 100 percent of the electorate. Southern Blacks weren't allowed to vote, and there were few Hispanics or Asians.

The relevant electoral divisions in the past were between groups of whites — Southerners and Northerners, Catholics and Protestants, New England Yankees and Jacksonian frontiersmen.

The parties competed by maximizing solidarity among favorable

demographic or regional minorities, while quietly seeking inroads among other groups.

Awareness of minority status tends to produce greater partisan solidarity. Extreme examples include Irish for 120 years after the potato famine, white Southerners for 90 years after the Civil War and blacks since 1964.

That may be happening again. Political scientist Larry Bartels points to research that shows that when Independent voters in the West were asked "if they had heard that California had become a majority-minority state," they were more likely to vote Republican by a sizeable 11 points.

These days, voters nationally are being told, by triumphant liberals and defensive conservatives, that America is headed toward becoming a majority-minority nation. So whites may become more Republican than ever, not because of racism but because of the dynamics of competitive party politics.

Republicans still face challenges among non-whites. But Democrats may face similar challenges among whites, and charges of racism won't help.

*Michael Barone, senior political analyst at the Washington Examiner, (www.washingtonexaminer.com), where this article first appeared, is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Fox News Channel contributor and a co-author of The Almanac of American Politics.*

# Community Calendar

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## Immunization clinic 3 times a month

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first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

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For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

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Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior

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## Monday night dance club

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"I know these people so well," he said, referring to the Clintons. "I just do not attach much genuineness to them at all and I don't know why anybody would be throwing a shoe at Hillary unless, maybe it's an attempt to make the Benghazi people look like nuts and lunatics and

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Strange speculation about shoes and babies seems almost benign compared with the past products peddled by this same gang. But so long as Hillary may run to make history as the nation's first woman president — and so long as she trounces every possible Republican opponent in voter surveys, as she does now — the stream of salacious garbage will swell.

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*To find out more about Joe Conason, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.*

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# Taliban ready to deal on captive US soldier?

WASHINGTON (AP) — The captors of an American soldier held for nearly five years in Afghanistan have signaled a willingness to release him but are unclear which U.S. government officials have the authority to make a deal, according to two individuals in the military working for his release. Critics of the release effort blame disorganization and poor communication among the numerous federal agencies involved.

— from the top of the Taliban down to the folks holding Bergdahl — are reaching out to make a deal,” the defense official said. The military officer, who said the effort was marred by distrust on both sides, said those holding Bergdahl have indicated what they would be willing to do to prove to the U.S. government that they want to deal, but that the U.S. has not formally responded to that outreach. Bergdahl, 28, of Hailey, Idaho, was last seen in a “proof of life” video released in December. He is thought to be held by members of the Haqqani network, which operates in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region and has been one of the deadliest threats to U.S. troops in the war.

ized command and control, which I have been informed is little to nonexistent, I urge you to seriously consider the idea of directing an individual to organize, manage and coordinate activity that involves multiple elements of the federal government working toward Bergdahl’s release,” wrote Hunter, a Marine veteran of both Iraq and Afghanistan. Days later, Hagel appointed Michael Lumpkin, assistant defense secretary for special operations and low-intensity conflict, as the point person for the Bergdahl case at the Pentagon. Hunter viewed that as a good step but noted that Lumpkin only has jurisdiction over the Pentagon work, not the other agencies.

detainees at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The department declined comment on Hunter’s letters and referred questions to the White House. “The reason Sgt. Bergdahl remains a captive is because he is being held by a terrorist organization, not because of a lack of effort or coordination by the U.S. government,” said Caitlin Hayden, spokeswoman for the National Security Council. The defense official and military officer paint a different picture. When the Hagel’s office and CENTCOM separately learned about the Bergdahl video in December, there was confusion about who should tell the family, the defense official said. The secretary’s office ended up informing the family. That angered CENTCOM, which believed it was its responsibility to tell the Bergdahls. Neither was communicating with the other about the video notification, the defense official said.

gathering in Washington that he was pleased with the government’s efforts to bring his son home. Navy Cmdr. Amy Derrick-Frost, a Defense Department spokeswoman, also defended the effort, saying the Pentagon was committed to the safe and immediate release of Bergdahl and saying Lumpkin was spearheading the “comprehensive synchronization” of efforts throughout the department and with other agencies. The Pentagon is exploring several avenues to get Bergdahl released, including one that seeks to negotiate with the Haqqani network, according to an individual familiar with the government’s efforts. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to publicly discuss the Pentagon’s efforts, said some government officials also are looking into ways to seek the simultaneous release of Bergdahl and four civilians, including a woman who was pregnant when she went missing, believed held by militants.

dahl for the five Taliban detainees, blaming the “current complex political situation” in Afghanistan. There also is some congressional opposition to the prisoner swap. According to military documents, one of the five served as interior minister during the Taliban’s five-year rule of Afghanistan and had direct ties to Osama bin Laden. “That’s dead,” Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said when asked about the prisoner swap idea. “It hasn’t gone anywhere for a couple of years.” McCain, who was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for more than five years, also said Obama administration officials first told Congress that they wanted to release five Taliban detainees at Guantanamo as a confidence-building measure to jump-start talks with the Taliban. “I said that was insane ... to do that,” said McCain, a frequent critic of the Obama administration who believes the government’s approach to getting Bergdahl back is in disarray. “Then it was the swap for Bergdahl. I said, ‘OK, fine. How are you going to do that?’ They never explained anything to anybody about how it would be done. ... How can you get him back if you are totally disorganized?”

An ever-shrinking U.S. military presence in Afghanistan has refocused attention on efforts to bring home Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who has been held by the Taliban since June 30, 2009. About two dozen officials at the State and Defense departments, the military’s U.S. Central Command, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Special Operations Command, the CIA and FBI are working the case — most of them doing it alongside their other duties, a defense official said.

The Haqqani network, which the State Department designated as a foreign terrorist organization in 2012, claims allegiance to the Afghan Taliban, yet operates with some degree of autonomy. Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., wrote earlier this year to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, saying it was critical that efforts to free Bergdahl are not overcome by bureaucracy.

A month after Lumpkin’s appointment, Hunter wrote President Barack Obama, asking him to make the Defense Department the lead on all efforts to get Bergdahl back “with the specific aim of achieving a faster resolution than can be provided by the Department of State.” He also asked Obama to name one coordinator to oversee the entire Bergdahl effort. The State Department is leading the most publicized approach to getting Bergdahl back — a plan to exchange him for five Taliban

All avenues are fraught with difficulties. In late February, the Taliban said they had suspended “mediation” with the United States about swapping Berg-

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Bergdahl’s captors are anxious to release him, according to a defense official and a military officer, who both spoke to The Associated Press only on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case publicly. “Elements in all echelons

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## Stowaway on jet said to be homesick for Africa

HONOLULU (AP) — A security video shows the California boy who survived stowing away on a jetliner dangling his feet from the aircraft’s wheel well after arriving in Hawaii, before jumping 8 to 10 feet to the ground and collapsing, an airport official says.

The 15 year old, who defied the odds by living through the freezing, low-pressure conditions in the jetliner’s wheel well as it flew from California to Hawaii, was disoriented and thirsty after Sunday’s ordeal, Maui District Airport Manager Marvin Moniz said.

The Associated Press was unable to reach Abdi, who airport officials say drives a taxi. After the boy was discovered in Maui, FBI and Transportation Security Administration investigators questioned him and fed him like a local with teriyaki meatballs and rice from an airport restaurant and a box of Maui macadamia nut cookies. The teen, whose name has not been released, said he had been in an argument at home, went to the airport, and got onto the first plane he came to.

Aguirre said a perimeter search found no holes or crawl spaces in the barbed-wire fence surrounding the 1,050-acre airport. Santa Clara High School Principal Gregory Shelby sent a note Tuesday to staff saying the teen has been in the U.S. for about four years, speaks English as his second language and had transferred into the district five weeks earlier, according to Jennifer Dericco, a spokeswoman for the Santa Clara Unified School District.

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Staggering toward the nose of the plane, the soft-spoken boy in a San Francisco Giants hoodie asked a ramp agent for a drink of water, setting in motion federal and local law enforcement investigations, national calls for better airport security and a flurry of speculation about how anyone could survive such a perilous trip.

“He didn’t realize he was in Maui — not at all,” Moniz said. The boy told officials he evaded what was supposed to be a multi-layered airport security system in San Jose by climbing a fence. That hasn’t surprised airport security experts, who say that for all the tens of billions of dollars the nation has spent screening passengers and their bags, few airports made a comparable investment to secure the airplanes parked on the tarmac.

Aviation security experts say San Jose is hardly alone when it comes to weaknesses in securing its airfield. “What happened in San Jose can happen as we speak at other airports, because nobody can watch all these monitors” that feed video from around the airport, said Rafi Ron, former head of security at Tel Aviv, Israel airport. He now runs a security consulting firm. That the teen survived is remarkable. At a cruising altitude of 38,000 feet, temperatures would have been well below zero and the air so starved of oxygen that he likely passed out. In response, his body could have entered a hibernation-like state, experts say.

Abdilahi Yusuf Abdi, who said he is the boy’s father, told Voice of America Wednesday that his son — who is still hospitalized in Honolulu — missed Africa, where they used to live, and had been struggling in school. Abdi said he learned of the perilous journey Sunday when he got a call from police in Hawaii. “When I watched the analysis about the extraordinary and dangerous trip of my son on local TVs and that Allah had saved him, I thanked God and I was very happy,” Abdi said.

“No system is foolproof,” said San Jose International Airport aviation director Kim Aguirre. “Certainly as we learn more, if we see any gaping holes, we will work to fill them.”

The TSA said it has spent \$80 billion on aviation security since its inception shortly after the 9/11 attacks. That does not include perimeter security. “We were investing all our resources in the front door, which were the passengers and their bags,” Ron said. “And we left the back door open.”

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## Area support groups

The following is a list of support groups that meet regularly each week in Pampa.

Information for each meeting is submitted to The Pampa News office and may not be completely updated or accurate. Please notify the newsroom if a change is necessary.

The Pampa News welcomes all submitted materials for area support groups. Please include the meeting time, date and location and, if applicable, provide a contact number for each group.

■ **Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault**, meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays, and at 2 p.m., Fridays, at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.

■ **Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.

■ **Cancer Support** meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Pampa

Regional Medical Center cafeteria. For more info, contact Beth Kean at 806-359-4673. Ext. 235.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous Open Door Club** meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous Primary Purpose** meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 112 W. Foster Ave.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous Keep It Simple** meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church in White Deer.

■ **Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.

■ **Accolade Home Care sponsors a Parkinson's Support Group** the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Been at 806-665-9700 or 806-324-3230.

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# My mom and the lady next door

**TOM MARGENAU**  
Creator's Syndicate

Why the working woman was so upset can best be explained by sharing the story of my mother and our neighbor.

I grew up in a small town where you could find rich folks in big houses living very near to poor folks occupying much more modest dwellings. And that was true of our neighborhood. My dad was a janitor struggling to make ends meet. My mother had to work to help pay the rent and keep enough groceries on the table to feed me and my three siblings.

Just behind our house across the alley was a big home owned by the vice president of a local bank. His wife, even though she had a degree in journalism, never worked outside the home once the first of an eventual brood of six children came along.

My brothers and sister and I got along famously with the children of the banker and his wife. We were always playing games, shooting baskets or otherwise just hanging out. On the other hand, our parents rarely spoke. I guess the economic and educational gulf between them was just too great to foster any kind of mean-



ingful relationship.

And that gulf only widened later in life between my mom and the neighbor lady after both of their husbands died. Sadly, most of the friction and resentment came from my mom's side of the alley. And much of it had to do with Social Security.

Because my mom had worked most of her life, she received her own Social Security retirement benefit. The widow's rate she was due on my dad's Social Security account was only slightly higher than her own, so she did get a small bump in her monthly checks from my dad's side of the Social Security ledger.

Across the alley, the neighbor lady received no benefits on her own Social Security account, but she did get a rather substantial widow's benefit from her deceased banker husband. It was more, actually quite a bit more, than my mother received from her combined accounts.

And this peeved my

mother to no end. Sadly, she lived the rest of her life bearing deep resentment -- partly to

her neighbor, and partly to the Social Security system that allowed what she perceived to be this injustice to happen. I can still hear her griping: "THAT WOMAN never worked a day in her life. And there she is in that big house, getting more money each month from the government than me, a woman who worked hard all her life just trying to make ends meet!" And that's the same sentiment I heard expressed at the speech I gave to the local women's club -- a quarter century after my mom's rants followed her to the grave.

I know there is some degree of animosity between women who either choose or have to work outside the home and women who either choose or have to stay home to raise a family. I'm not touching that social issue with a 10-foot pole.

But I can address the Social Security side of the story. I used to ask my

mom: "If you think things are unfair, what do you think we should do about it? Should we take widow's benefits away from Mrs. [X] because you don't think she deserves them?" My mother might get a nasty little gleam in her eye with that thought. But she always eventually admitted that the neighbor was due her widow's benefits.

My mom would counter with this: "I think I should get my own full Social Security benefit AND my own full widow's benefit. After all, I worked and paid for my Social Security, and dad worked and paid for his Social Security!" On the surface, it seems like a valid point. In fact, I've heard thousands of working women make the same argument to me over the years.

But here is the flip side of that coin: If working women can get their own retirement benefits and full spousal benefits, then shouldn't working men be offered the same? For example, why can't Warren Buffet get husband's or widower's benefits off his wife's Social Security record to supplement his own?

OK, maybe that's an

extreme example. So let's take my neighbor. He and his wife have both worked and they are each getting their own Social Security benefits. Should we pay her, in addition to her own Social Security, a wife's benefit on her husband's record? And then likewise, should we pay him, in addition to his own retirement benefit, a husband's benefit on his wife's account? And after one or the other dies, should the survivor get both full benefits?

The truth is: Social Security spousal and survivor benefits have always been classified as "dependent's" benefits. They are meant to be paid to a lower-earning (or no-earning) spouse who was financially dependent on the higher income spouse. They were never meant to be paid to everyone as some kind of add-on marital bonus to their own Social Security account. The Social Security system would have gone bankrupt decades ago if we were doing that!

*If you have a Social Security question, Tom Margenau has the answer. Contact him at thomas.margenau@comcast.net.*

# Biologists watching fish runs after deadly slide

DARRINGTON, Wash. (AP) — Fisheries biologist Pete Verhey waded through the cold, clear creek that feeds into the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River, scanning riffles and side channels looking for evidence of fish eggs.

"We got one!" he shouted, pulling pink tape from his waders and marking the spot where a steelhead trout had buried eggs in the gravel.

The redd, or spawning nest, is an encouraging sign that steelhead trout may be making their way upstream from Oso — above where a massive landslide decimated a riverside neighborhood a month ago and pushed several football fields worth of sediment down the hillside and across the river.

As search crews continue to look for two missing people in the slide, scientists also are closely monitoring how the slide is affecting federally endangered fish runs, including Chinook salmon and steelhead.

It's too early to know the

slide's long-term effects, but so far scientists are hopeful about the immediate prospects: adult steelhead are spawning in clear waters above the slide area, and typical numbers of baby fish are migrating downstream to the marine waters.

"It's still a human tragedy, and we're respectful of that," said Jenni Whitney, a district fish biologist with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. "We're doing our best to monitor fish because eventually people will want to know."

Water samples tests also have turned up low levels of fecal coliform, nitrates and other pollutants, easing concerns about chemical contamination for people and fish, said Dick Walker, a senior spill responder with the Department of Ecology.

The Stillaguamish River, which runs from the North Cascades into Puget Sound, once had legendary runs of wild steelhead and Chinook salmon. Western novelist Zane Grey fished its creeks nearly a century

ago and described one as the most beautiful trout water he'd ever seen.

The river has long drawn fly fishermen who try their hand at hooking a prized summer run steelhead. But decades of urban and other pressures have greatly reduced fish runs. Sediment from landslides, logging, development and other activities has always been a challenge for fish in the river.

The state and Stillaguamish Tribe were already in the midst of yearslong efforts to monitor and restore fish runs when the slide struck. That wealth of historical data will help them gauge future changes.

A few days after the March 22 slide, biologists working with the tribe saw a spike in dead juvenile salmon migrating out to Puget Sound. They saw more deaths than usual in its smolt trap, essentially a water wheel in the river near Stanwood that allows scientists to trap, count, measure and then release baby fish.

"We were really con-

cerned the first few days," but it was an isolated event, said Jason Griffith, a fisheries biologist with the tribe.

The slide had temporarily dammed up the river, and he and others were initially worried that the dam could break. A flash flood warning issued downstream of the slide was in effect for the first few days.

Once the river cut a channel and pushed through, a ton of silt began moving downstream. The waters down from the slide turned murky and grey. Muddy waters make it difficult for fish to survive. Sediment can damage fish gills and make it harder for fish to see their food.

Fish holding in pools near the area of the slide and any eggs in the gravel at the time likely were damaged, said DFW's Whitney. "This is a natural occurrence, but it is pretty hard on fish habitat," she added.

"It's hard to know how long it will take for sediment to move out of system, and how long it will

take for (fish) to return. How will it affect fish long into the future?"

Those are some questions scientists hope to answer as they continue monitoring fish in the months and years to come.

Fish have evolved over thousands of years to deal with slides, heavy sediment and other harsh conditions, Griffith said. "They're resilient enough that they're coming back as they have for thousands of years."

Still, scientists won't know for some time the full effects of the slide. Fish may have gone out to sea in a weakened state, or other fish may have died that weren't caught in the tribe's smolt trap, he said. The next several years of adult fish surveys may reveal more, he added.

On a recent afternoon, Whitney and Verhey walked a mile of Squire Creek, a tributary of the North Fork of the Stillagua-

mish, looking for bright patches of gravel where a steelhead may have rolled over rocks while digging a nest for its eggs.

"That white patch of gravel that could be a redd," Verhey called over to Whitney.

They found a few redds the previous week, and would find more in coming days. They'll also continue to do fish surveys, as they have done, as Chinook, coho and other salmon return later this fall.

Bill Blake, co-chair of the Stillaguamish Watershed Council who lives downstream from the slide area, said the immediate concern is to help families who suffered from the landslide and other recovery efforts.

He said: "How do we do this right to make sure the steelhead population is better than ever? But that's after we've done what it takes to help the families."

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# Fort Worth Nature Center, Refuge marks 50 years

By **STEVE CAMPBELL**  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

**FORT WORTH (AP)** — One hundred years ago, Fort Worth just wanted clean water.

Fifty years later, determined Audubon Society members just wanted a small nature preserve where they could watch birds.

That the two conservation efforts grew into Fort Worth's wild green jewel is "all about karma," Rob Denkhau said.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/1k1K5t5>) reports the 3,621-acre Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge, one of the largest city-owned nature preserves in the country, marks its 50th birthday this year as an unmanicured wild haven within sight of downtown's skyscrapers.

The first of several anniversary events will be held Saturday when the Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge hold a VIP celebration dinner, "Fort Worth Wild," featuring Carter Smith, executive director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

But the party wouldn't be complete without paying homage to city leaders who built Lake Worth in 1914 and then bought the land around it to preserve water quality, said Denkhau, the refuge's natural resource manager.

"We're celebrating 50 years, but those couldn't be celebrated if there hadn't been the 50 years prior to that where nobody came in and screwed the place up," he said. "They didn't want it developed. They were really

farsighted folks. They had the foresight to see that as a problem and to protect it."

Equally important was a "bold experiment" in 1964 by the Fort Worth Parks Department and a group of Audubon Society members to establish the 380-acre natural area on and around Greer Island, where the West Fork of the Trinity River becomes Lake Worth, said Tony Burgess, a retired professor in TCU's department of environmental science who now lives in Homer, Alaska.

Three years later, the city expanded the refuge to more than 3,000 acres, creating an accessible urban wilderness of wetlands, thick forests and plant-rich prairies that harks back to how much of the region once appeared.

"Having the whole upper

watershed protected is a remarkable accomplishment for the city," Burgess said. "You have an entire wetlands ecosystem within the city limits functioning like it did 200 years ago, in the presence of an urban population."

The refuge is like a state park within the city, said Suzanne Tuttle, who started working at the nature center 21 years ago and has been its manager for nine years.

"You can really feel like you are out in the wilderness. All you can hear are birds calling and armadillos rustling in the leaves. You can really get that snapshot of Texas in 1700," she said.

Many cities have nature areas, but the scale of the Fort Worth refuge makes it different, Denkhau said.

What was also fortuitous

was the makeup of the land that the city bought through eminent domain.

"They didn't know it, but they took the most diverse piece of property in Tarrant County," he said, noting that the refuge contains all eight of the soil associations found in the county.

"It's just amazing that an area so diverse just happened to be set aside. It's all about karma," Denkhau said of the refuge, which was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1980 by the National Park Service.

"This is the only spot where all eight of them are found in an area of 3,600 acres," Denkhau said. "If you have diverse soils, that leads to diverse plant communities, which leads to diverse animal communities."

"Which is why I've always said we have everything that we're supposed to have in this part of Texas, plus a few extras," he said.

Bob O'Kennon, a research scientist at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas in Fort Worth, said the extras are still being discovered.

Over 42 years of studying the preserve, O'Kennon has compiled a plant list of 997 species found there. He has added 30 in the last year alone, including two new plants that he's still working to describe.

"That's a lot for an area that big. There's a pond that has 308 species in 1.7 acres, which is insane. And the thing is, most of it's water. It's phenomenal," said O'Kennon, who sits on the board of the Friends group.

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# University: Unclear if sperm mix-up intentional

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — The results of an investigation released Thursday concluded that it may never be known how a convicted felon replaced a patient's sperm with his own two decades ago and fathered a child, or whether he did the same type of switch with other families.

The University of Utah said its review determined there was no evidence to suggest the late Thomas Lippert fathered any other children. However, it also noted that hundreds of families who used the fertility clinic where he worked have not been contacted.

The university, based on a recommendation by the doctors and medical ethicists who did the investigation, has chosen not to reach out to the estimated 1,500 couples who used

the facility when Lippert worked there from 1988 to 1993.

Officials believe making families aware of the mix-up and offering paternity tests could cause emotional distress for families, some of whom many not have told children how they were conceived. The report also noted it would be an enormous task to find couples so long after their procedures.

"At this point, we're keeping our fingers crossed that it's an isolated event," said Dr. Jeffrey Botkin, chair of the panel.

The committee was unable to determine if a sperm sample was intentionally or accidentally switched by Lippert before the child was conceived. The report notes Lippert, a lab technician, was also a sperm donor at the clinic


and frequently processed his own samples.

The private clinic was closely associated with the university and closed in 1998. Some of the supervisors at the clinic are dead.


The Texas family at the center of the mix-up, the Branums of San Antonio did not immediately return phone calls from The Associated Press. Their daughter, Annie Branum, now 21, has said the discovery has forced her to rethink who she is. Her family stumbled upon the situation while using widely available DNA tests to trace their family roots.

Only five people have had paternity tests done since the mix-up became public earlier this year, and the university created a hotline and website for affected families, Botkin said.


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## Severe storms loom across central US this weekend

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)** — Forecasters are predicting a significant chance of strong tornadoes this weekend across a large part of the nation's mid-section, an outbreak that could stretch from the Great Plains to the Midwest and South.

It's been a quiet year for tornadoes so far, but that doesn't mean the placid weather won't take an abrupt turn, forecasters said Thursday.

"Our run of relatively quiet weather may be about to come to an end," Bill Bunting, operations chief for the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., said.

Bunting said the coming system will start Saturday in the Plains — Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and a sliver of South Dakota — and move eastward into Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana on Sunday. The system is expected to stretch into parts of Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama later Sunday.

Strong winds in the upper and middle atmosphere will meet most air moving north from the Gulf of Mexico, creating conditions conducive for tornado development, Bunting said.

"The threat is there and folks need to monitor the latest information from the National Weather Service," Bunting said.

Bunting said that people in the affected areas should be aware that dangerous weather is possible. But when it comes to exactly where and how dangerous, he said it's too early to say.

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## TRUSTAR REAL ESTATE GOLDCOATING



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

A Goldcoating was held for TruStar Real Estate. From left are Charles Henry, Shane Stokes, Terry Barnes, Heather Thompson, Ronnie Wood, Debbie Heiser, Paulette Hinkle, Shelly Cook, Sheila Winton (coo-Owner), Gary Winton (owner), Roy Morriss, Darville Orr, Sheila Webb, Lyndon Field, Ken Rheams, Richard Morris, Raymond Jaramillo, Jerry Foote, and Pat Montoya.

## PAMPA STORAGE SPOT GOLDCOATING



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

A Goldcoating was held for Pampa Storage Spot. From left are Terry Barnes, Debbie Heiser, Heather Thompson, Shane Stokes, Raymond Jaramillo, Lyndon Field, Shelly Cook, Charles Henry, Paulette Hinkle, Roy Morriss, Ken Rheams, Ray Meadows (owner), Ronnie Wood, Sheila Webb, Darville Orr, and Richard Morris.

## Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District rule amendments passed

SUBMITTED

During the March Board Meeting, rule amendments consisting of adding a new definition, additional language to existing definitions, and increases in penalties for District Rule violations were passed.

First amendment adoption was to Rule 1, adding "Property Line" as a new definition, being defined as "real property lines and subterranean groundwater property lines when water rights have been severed." The Board agreed to also add additional definition to "contiguous acreage," "initial production allowable" and "permit."

"Contiguous acreage" means acres within the same contiguous boundary associated with groundwater rights that are owned or leased by a person. Acreages must share a common boundary of at least one-quarter mile to be considered contiguous. Minimal breaks between contiguous acreage caused by railroads and public roads may not disqualify property from being considered contiguous acreage.

"Initial production allowable" shall be 1 acre-foot per acre per year allowable of water rights owned on each permit granted. This amount is subject to adjustment pursuant to the depletion rule. Acreage of water rights may be evidenced by information on file with applicable county tax appraisal district and/or other legal documentation.

The words, "The Permit shall contain the production allowable," were added to

the definition of "Permit."

Rule 3.3 was amended to include clarifying language. It is stated in part (d) of the rule that: The District shall assess the following initial minimum penalties for the listed Rule Violations. The District will work with the violator to ensure that compliance is reached. The Board may set reasonable penalties for other Rule violations that are not listed. If the violator is not cooperative or does not make reasonable progress towards compliance within a Board-determined timeframe, the Board may assess the penalty for every day that the violation is unresolved. For the second incidence of any offense, the listed initial penalty shall be doubled and the third incidence shall be tripled, up to a maximum fine of \$10,000 per day.

Initial Penalty Violations:

1. A. Failure to register an exempt well according to District Rules, \$500.

B. Failure to permit a non-exempt well according to District Rules, \$1,500.

This penalty will be assessed against both the well owner and well driller for drilling a well without first having the appropriate well registration or permit from the District, prior to drilling the well. The District shall notify the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation of well drillers receiving this penalty along with the District rule that was violated.

2. Failure to install a meter on a new well, replacement well or any well subject to meter requirements in a

Conservation Area within 120 days, \$1,500.

Meters may be alternatively located at the center pivot sprinkler if all production is captured at the center pivot.

3. Use of groundwater that constitutes waste, \$1,500.

4. False statement on records or permit applications, \$1,500.

5. Failure to file documentation or well log with the District within the required time period of 60 days, \$500.

6. Failure to properly plug or cover an abandoned well, \$1,500.

The Board accepted the change of Rule 4.3, Drilling and Production Permits, to include additional wording "of water rights owned or controlled." It now states: "The maximum production shall not exceed 1 acre-foot per acre per year on any contiguous acre of water rights owned or controlled."

The last amendment adopted by the board was adding language to Rule 4.4, Requirement of Driller's Log, Casing, Pump Data and Meters, the sentence "This rule applies to all wells, including water wells used for oil and gas exploration or production purposes" was added at the end of the rule.

For more information, call 806-883-2501 or visit [pgcd.us](http://pgcd.us).

## Arbor Day Foundation offers tree-care booklet

SUBMITTED

The Arbor Day Foundation is offering a handy tree-care booklet designed to help people plant and care for trees.

Anyone can receive Conservation Trees, a user-friendly booklet featuring illustrations, colorful photos and easily-understood descriptions, by making a \$3 donation to the Foundation this month.

"Conservation Trees is an ideal resource for tree planters," said John Rose-now, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Taking care of existing trees is just as critical as planting new ones, and proper care ensures communities are able to fully enjoy the diverse benefits of urban forestry."

The booklet provides details about the right way to plant and prune trees. It

also includes tips on using shade trees and windbreaks to save on energy costs, attract songbirds and create a living snow fence.

To receive the Conservation Trees booklet, send a \$3 check along with your name and address to: Conservation Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or order online at [arborday.org/conservation-trees](http://arborday.org/conservation-trees).

**Attention Area Senior Girls..**  
Are you considering joining a Sorority at college in the fall?  
If so, please join us for our Annual

**Pampa Panhellenic Senior Tea**  
Sunday, April 27th 2 pm  
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For more information please call/text (806)662-0775

This meeting will provide information on sorority recruitment, how to obtain recommendations, and other helpful hints.  
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# Paul McCartney to play at Candlestick concert

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Pop legend Paul McCartney is set to return to Candlestick Park to offer a swan song to the San Francisco 49ers' former stadium.

McCartney's website posted a statement Thursday confirming that the former Beatle will perform on Aug. 14 at what is being billed as the last concert at Candlestick.

His appearance became contentious last month



**Paul McCartney**

when McCartney's worldwide concert promoter, Barrie Marshall, mentioned he had visited the 49ers' new Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara as part of negotiations about a possible opening concert there in August.

The San Francisco Chronicle reports city officials felt slighted, since San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee had personally invited McCartney to close the "Stick." The Beatles played their final paid concert there in 1966.

San Francisco's Recreation and Park Department Director Phil Ginsberg says the city's persistence helped seal the deal.

# Obama offering Japan security, economic assurances

TOKYO (AP) — Facing fresh questions about his commitment to Asia, President Barack Obama will seek to convince Japan's leaders Thursday that he can deliver on his security and economic pledges, even as the crisis in Ukraine demands U.S. attention and resources elsewhere.

The ominous standoff between Ukraine and Russia is threatening to overshadow Obama's four-country Asia swing that began Wednesday.



**Barack Obama**

day. He may decide during the trip whether to levy new economic sanctions on Moscow, a step that would signal the failure of an international agreement aimed at defusing the crisis.

But at least publicly, Obama will try to keep the focus on his Asia agenda, which includes reaffirming his commitment to a defense treaty with Japan, making progress on a stalled trans-Pacific trade agreement and finalizing a deal to modestly increase the American military footprint in the Philippines.

He began his day with a call on Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace, a lush park-like complex

surrounded by modern skyscrapers where he was greeted by a military honor guard and children holding U.S. and Japanese flags. After taking in the scene, the president, emperor and empress walked along a maze of red carpet into the palace for a private meeting, with U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy and other aides trailing behind.

The president told the emperor that the last time they met, he did not have any gray hairs. "You have a very hard job," the emperor replied. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said he and Obama had a long talk at a private dinner Wednesday evening and looked forward to a fruitful meeting Thursday.

# Beijing auto show opens amid market slowdown

BEIJING (AP) — Global and Chinese automakers are looking to the Beijing auto show to help boost sales in a slowing, intensely competitive market.

Brands from General Motors Co. to Chinese SUV maker Great Wall Motors are unveiling new and restyled sedans, sport utility vehicles and other models at Auto China 2014 this week.

China is the world's biggest auto market, with 17.9 million vehicles sold last year. But sales growth is forecast to slow from last year's 15.7 percent to 8 to 10 percent this year. And competition is intense, with global automakers jostling with 25 local brands for sales.

Ambitious domestic brands such as Chery Ltd. are losing ground to foreign rivals. Sales by Chinese independent brands shrank 2.6 percent from a year earlier in the first quarter while the overall market grew 7.9 percent and their market share shrank.

GM plans to unveil a new Chevrolet Cruze compact and to display an updated Cadillac CTS and Chevrolet Trax SUV. Nissan Motor Co., looking to China to help drive its global turnaround, will debut a concept sedan.

Chinese automakers plan to use the show to highlight improvements in design and technology to lure buyers.

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# PampaSports

## Pampa Harvester recognized

**STAFF REPORT**

Pampa Harvesters' senior pitcher Ryan Powell received some recognition this week from THSB.com, a Texas High School Baseball website.

Powell was recognized as a runner-up for the Diamond Pro 3A Pitcher of the Week on April 23.

Last Tuesday on April 15, at Dalhart, Ryan Powell pitched six innings with eight strikeouts and a walk in Pampa's 11-0 shutout victory over the Golden Wolves.

"It was pretty tough



**Ryan Powell**

and I have never been in that position before, but I knew my guys were behind me anytime the ball was hit," Powell said after the win. "I knew they had my back and I just threw the ball down the middle and tried to hit some corners and hoped they wouldn't touch it, which they didn't. It was pretty impressive on a defensive part."

You can read more about the game Powell is recognized for in the Thursday, April 17, edition of The Pampa News.

## Optimist baseball opens up with Rotary over Duncan, Fraser and Bridges 4-1

**SUBMITTED**

Zach Robinson, with help from Jeremiah Avilla, put away Duncan, Fraser and Bridges Insurance Agency as Rotary Club came away with a 4-1 win Thursday to open the 2014 Pampa Optimist Cal Ripken League season.

Robinson allowed one run and one hit in pitching five strong innings to be the winning pitcher. He struck out 12 and walked three. Avilla came on in the bottom of the sixth inning with the bases loaded to strike out a batter and induce a ground out to be credited with a save.

Jackson Bagwell was the leading hitter in the game with two hits, two runs and one RBI for Rotary. Isaia Cortez doubled and

scored for Rotary. Avilla scored Rotary's other run on a hit by Bagwell.

Eduardo Soto and Garrett Anderson pitched for DFB.

Soto made the outstanding defensive play of the game by diving for a pop-up at first base and then diving back to the bag to complete an unassisted double play. Robinson picked a runner off first for the outstanding defensive play for Rotary.

Rotary takes on Glo-Valve Service at 6 p.m. Friday while Glo-Valve hosts DFB Saturday at 1 p.m. in the official Opening Day for 2014 Pampa Optimist Baseball/Softball.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

## Nowitzki, Vogel, Warriors honored by PBWA

NEW YORK (AP) — Dallas Mavericks All-Star Dirk Nowitzki and



**Dirk Nowitzki**

Indiana Pacers coach Frank Vogel have been honored by the Pro Basketball Writers Association for their success on the court and cooperation with fans and media.

Nowitzki was presented with the Magic Johnson Award, beating out five other finalists. Vogel was one of five

finalists in his category for the award, named for former Houston Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich.

The awards were announced Friday by the PBWA.

Also, the public relations staff of the Golden State Warriors received the Brian McIntyre Award for the second time.

They joined the Indiana Pacers as the only two-time winners of the award, which is named for the longtime NBA PR official and recognizes the staff that best exemplifies the standards of professionalism and excellence.

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Jessalyn Robert

## Wesley Foundation peddler coming through Pampa

**SUBMITTED**

Mallory Ross is pedaling more than 1,000 miles to raise funds for a cause important to her.

Originally from Woodward, Okla., this graduate of Oklahoma State University has been working the past year for The Wesley Foundation at OSU, a United Methodist campus ministry in Stillwater, Okla. During the year she has encountered a wide range of young adults and learned about their experiences and hopes, and she believes those need to be shared with the world.

On April 21, Mallory bicycled out of Stillwater, setting out on an adven-

ture to share those stories and the story of Christian ministry at OSU with as many people as she can in northern Oklahoma, southern Kansas, and the Texas Panhandle. Her round-trip route returns her to Stillwater on May 16.

During her three-week trip, Mallory will be traveling through Pampa. We hope that you will consider sharing in her commitment, encouraging her progress on the road and her purpose for riding. Look for her on the road!

Mallory's ride highlights the IMAGINE Campaign of The Wesley Foundation at OSU. This effort is specifically related to raising \$6 million to develop a new facility for student ministry in Stillwater.

You also can follow and support Mallory through her blog at <http://www.wesleyosu.com/Imagine-Bike-Tour>.

## Cowboys add another QB in ex-Chicago starter Hanie

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have added another quarterback with starting experience in Caleb Hanie.

The signing of Hanie on Thursday gives the Cowboys three quarterbacks behind Tony



**Caleb Hanie**

Romo. Kyle Orton was Romo's backup last year, and Dallas signed Brandon Weeden last month.

Hanie, who didn't play last year, spent four seasons with Chicago after signing as an undrafted free agent in 2008.

**Watch the Pros**  
**SATURDAY**

**Baseball**  
Texas Rangers at Seattle Mariners.....FSSW 8:10 p.m.  
L.A. Angels at New York Yankees.....FS1 noon  
Pittsburgh Pirates at St. Louis Cardinals...FS1 3 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers....WGN 6 p.m.

**College Softball**  
Georgia at Alabama.....ESPNU 11 a.m.  
Jackson St. at Mississippi Valley St.....ESPNU 3:30 p.m.

**College Baseball**  
Alabama at South Carolina.....ESPN 1 p.m.  
Hawaii at Cal St.-Fullerton.....ESPU 7 p.m.

**College Lacrosse**  
Ohio State at Johns Hopkins.....ESPNU 1 p.m.

**Hockey (Sharks-Kings Game 5 if necessary)**  
Detroit Red Wings at Boston Bruins.....NBC 2 p.m.  
Columbus Blue Jackets at Pittsburgh Penguins....NBCSN 6 p.m.  
Minnesota Wild at Colorado Avalanche.....NBCSN 8:30 p.m.  
L.A. Kings at San Jose Sharks.....NBCSN 9 p.m.

**Golf**  
Zurich Classic of New Orleans.....Golf noon  
Zurich Classic of New Orleans.....NBC 2 p.m.  
LPGA: Swinging Skirts Classic.....Golf 5:30 p.m.

**Boxing**  
Thurman-Diaz (Lightweights).....SHO 8:30 p.m.

**Track and Field**  
Penn Relays.....NBCSN 11:30 a.m.  
Drake Relays.....NBCSN 2 p.m.

**Auto Racing**  
NASCAR Sprint Cup from Richmond.....FOX 5:30 p.m.

**Basketball**  
San Antonio Spurs at Dallas Mavericks.....TNT 3:30 p.m.  
Indiana Pacers at Atlanta Hawks.....TNT 1 p.m.  
Miami Heat at Charlotte Bobcats.....ESPN 6 p.m.  
Oklahoma City Thunder at Memphis Grizzlies.....ESPN 8:30 p.m.

**Soccer**  
Southampton vs. Everton.....NBCSN 6:40 p.m.  
Fulham vs. Hull.....NBCSN 8:55 a.m.  
Manchester United vs. Norwich.....NBC 11:30 a.m.  
\*\*Check your local listings for channel number\*\*  
\*\*\*Times may vary and blackouts may apply\*\*\*

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## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**Bryson Paronto**



**Sarah Dennis**

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# PampaSports

## Golf Thought of the Week

■ Course management as a skill is underrated by almost all golfers.

I can't remember how many shots Jack Nicklaus claimed he could knock off his amateur playing partners' scores, just by giving them advice on what shot to play. He felt that too many golfers were not just reckless with their decision making, they were "unthinking." That is, they gave the shot no consideration other than how far was it, and what club do I hit (if I hit it true) to go that

distance. On the other hand, some of you will start worrying that this is a complex skill with time consuming analysis that is going to slow down your round, and everyone behind you. Actually, it might shorten the time you take to play a round! In fact we can make this really simple. Let's take all the par threes for instance. Try playing the next few rounds without aiming at the flag once. On each hole make this a very simple decision process. How far is it to the middle of the green; where is the worse trouble, over the back or in the front?

Club accordingly to get to the middle, but definitely take out the trouble (be inclined to club up if the trouble is at the front and vice versa). Now, aim carefully at the center of the green, ignoring the flag position, and swing. Compare your total on the par threes for the next few rounds with the previous rounds. And if you think your handicap is too good for this tip, then know that on the PGA Tour there are some good golfers who follow this advice.

*Tim Stadler is the PGA professional at Pampa Country Club. He can be reached at 655-8431.*



**Tim Stadler**

## Venom return home against West Texas, hold Education Night

AMARILLO — The Venom, the two-time defending LSFL champions, will look toward returning to the Cal Farley Coliseum of the Amarillo Civic Center on Saturday, April 26 at 7:05 p.m. The Venom will not only seek to return to their winning ways against the West Texas Wildcatters, but will celebrate a profession that is vital to help shape our youth's future: the teachers and those who are in the education field.

In celebration of these hard working individuals,

the Venom will offer free tickets to all teachers with valid identification.

These tickets are available at the Amarillo Civic Center Box Office, at the Amarillo Venom kiosk at the Westgate Mall in Amarillo, online at GoVenom.com, or by calling the Amarillo Venom office.

Also, there will be free kids jerseys for the first 500 children through the gate with a paid ticket.

This festivity is sponsored by Education Credit Union, Sonic, 96.9 KISS FM and Snack Pak 4Kids. The Amarillo Venom

are a proud member of the Lone Star Football League. For more information and tickets, contact the Amarillo Venom office at (806) 350-7277.



**Got A Sports Story or Photo?**  
Send them to [jclee@thepampanews.com](mailto:jclee@thepampanews.com) or bring it to the paper!

## Watch the Pros SUNDAY

- Baseball**  
Texas Rangers at Seattle Mariners.....FSSW 3:10 p.m.  
L.A. Angels at New York Yankees.....ESPN 7 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers....WGN 1 p.m.
  - College Baseball**  
Alabama at South Carolina.....ESPN noon  
Oregon at Oregon State.....ESPNU 3 p.m.  
Arizona State at Arizona.....ESPNU 6:30 p.m.  
Hawaii at Cal State-Fullerton.....ESPNU 9:30 p.m.
  - College Lacrosse**  
ACC Tournament.....ESPNU noon
  - Golf**  
Zurich Classic of New Orleans.....Golf/NBC noon/2 p.m.
  - Hockey**  
Philadelphia Flyers at New York Rangers...NBC 11 a.m.  
St. Louis Blues at Chicago Blackhawks.....NBC 2 p.m.  
Anaheim Ducks at Dallas Stars.....TSN 7 p.m.
  - Racing**  
Motorcycle: FIM MotoGP in Argentina...FS1 11 a.m.  
IndyCar Series in Birmingham.....NBCSN 1:30 p.m.
  - Arena Football**  
Iowa at Philadelphia.....ESPN2 3 p.m.
  - Soccer**  
Sunderland vs. Cardiff.....NBCSN 5:55 a.m.  
Liverpool vs. Chelsea.....NBCSN 8 a.m.  
Crystal Palace vs. Manchester City.....NBCSN 10:05 a.m.
  - Basketball**  
Chicago Bulls at Washington Wizards.....ABC 1 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Golden State Warriors.....ABC 3:30 p.m.  
Toronto Raptors at Brooklyn Nets.....TNT 6 p.m.  
Houston Rockets at Portland Trail Blazers.....TNT 8:30 p.m.
- \*\*Check your local listings for channel number\*\***  
**\*\*\*Times may vary and blackouts may apply\*\*\***

## Rangers appoint Oliver to honor Michael Young

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers have appointed retired pitcher Darren Oliver as a special assistant to the general manager and announced plans to honor career hits leader Michael Young.

Oliver retired last fall after 20 major league seasons, 10 of them over three different stints with Texas. Oliver will work in a variety of areas with an emphasis on pitching.

Even before Thursday's announcements, Oliver had already been involved with the Rangers, including time at spring training.

Young will be recognized in a pregame ceremony May 17 before a game against Toronto, the organization that traded him to Texas in 2000. Young made his major league debut at the end of that season and spent all but the last of his 13 years in the majors with the Rangers.

## Sharapova advances to Stuttgart quarterfinals

STUTTGART, Germany (AP) — Defending champion Maria Sharapova defeated Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-4, 6-3 on Thursday to set up a Porsche Grand Prix quarterfinal with top seed Agnieszka Radwanska.



**Maria Sharapova**

The sixth-seeded Sharapova needed a little over an hour and a half to defeat her fellow Russian, keeping alive her dream of winning the tournament for the third year in a row.

Polish world No. 3 Radwanska was rarely troubled in wrapping up a 6-3, 6-2 win over Italy's Roberta Vinci.

Carla Suarez Navarro upset the fourth-seeded Angelique Kerber 7-5, 6-4 to knock the last remaining German out of the tournament. The world No. 16 next faces Estonia's Kaia Kanepi.

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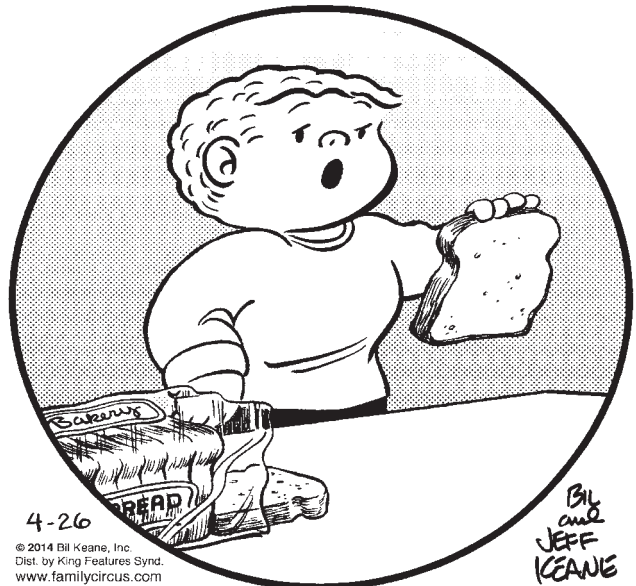
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# comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



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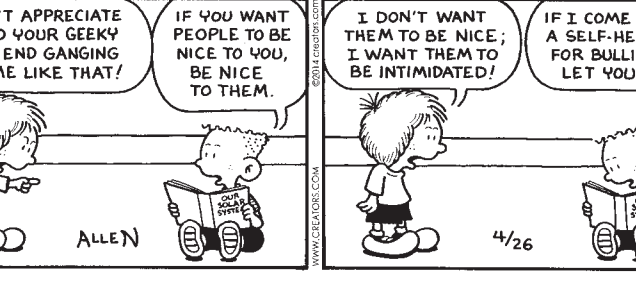
"Mommy, can you make this toast? I don't want my bread raw."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



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# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Monday, April 28, 2014:  
This year your friends play a bigger role in creating more of what you want. Brainstorming sessions will result in remarkable ideas -- some of which actually might be applicable! You easily could feel overworked or go to extremes with your health and ideas. If you are single, a friend might become more, or you could meet someone of interest through a friend. You will tend to be far more romantic than you have been in the past. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy hanging out together more. The friendship that exists between you is as strong as your romantic tie. A fellow TAURUS could be more stubborn than you are!

**The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:** 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
★★★ You might not be looking forward to a conversation that has the potential to be awkward. Your intuition could tell you to be more vulnerable. Try to find some common ground between you and the other party. Tonight: You have reason to celebrate.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ You might wake up dreading that it is Monday, but you will be pleasantly surprised as the day goes on. Someone could surprise you by going out of his or her way for you. You'll feel this person's sensitivity, as there is a strong bond between you. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ You could opt to stay behind the scenes today. Conversations will surround you, and others are likely to express their ideas freely. In order to encourage the flow of this exchange, avoid attacking anyone else's ideas. Tonight: Head home to exercise and ponder.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ Zero in on a key matter that is instrumental to your well-being. Understand what is happening with a loved one. Honor what you need to do, and observe what is occurring with a family member who has been unusually out of sorts. Tonight: Swap news with a dear friend.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ You'll give a full Leo performance today, no matter what you do. A disturbing conversation will provide the incentive to work through a problem. You'll resolve an issue and leave everyone smiling. A boss or important loved

one appreciates your efforts. Tonight: Live for the moment.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ One-on-one relating will open up doors. You might want to explore your options. Reach out to someone at a distance and listen to his or her news. Curb spending with the knowledge of your ultimate financial goal. A partner will delight you with suggestions. Tonight: Surf the Web.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★★ Relating on an individual level will help you understand someone who is a dominant presence in your life. You are very different, yet together you conjure up perhaps some of the wildest ideas. Deal with a matter involving your finances. Tonight: Enjoy dinner for two.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Be receptive to new ideas. You might be overwhelmed by what is happening around you. Defer to someone who often needs to take the lead. Your imagination is likely to provide a solution to a difficult matter that will please most parties. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

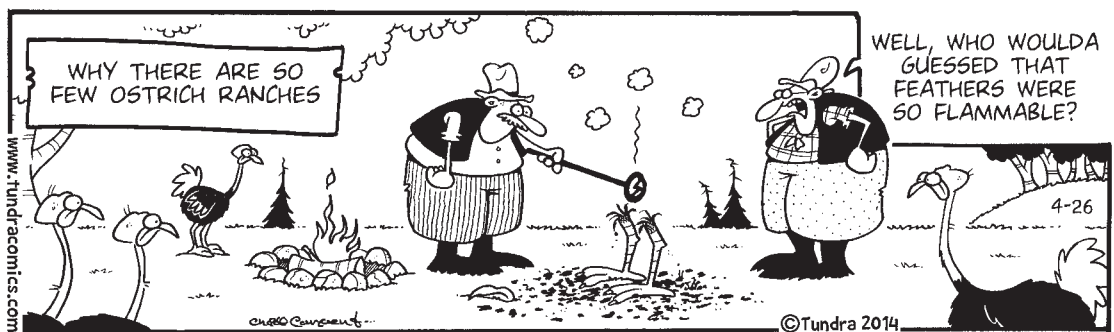
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Your mind might be on everything else but the here and now. Force yourself to focus by midday, or else you might not get done what you might need to. Honor a need for a change in plans. Stay level and direct in handling a problem person. Tonight: Do something different.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ Tension could get you going this morning. Your creativity will find the answer to relieve the stress. Honor what is happening, but don't hesitate to lighten up the moment. Allow your sense of humor to emerge, and maintain a grounded perspective. Tonight: Fun and games.

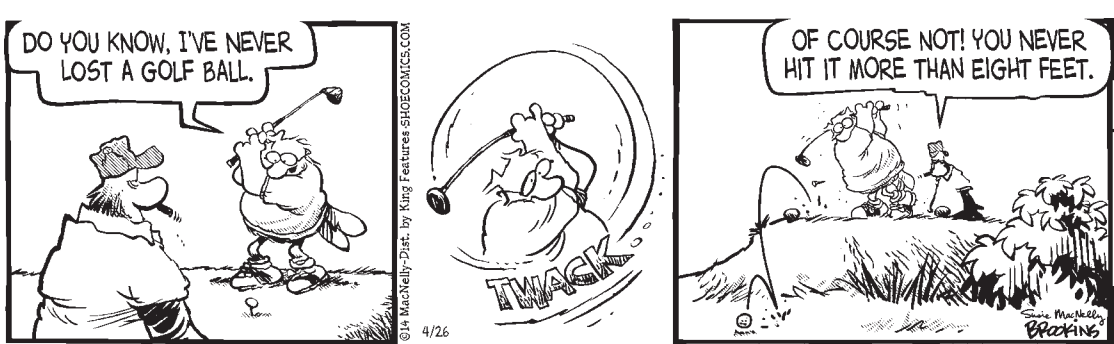
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by everything you have to do, and you might need to make an adjustment to your plans. You won't know for sure until you catch up with a key person. If you can, work from home, or perhaps make your work setting more comfortable. Tonight: Order in.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ Share more of your wilder ideas that take you to some interesting places. A friend absolutely will respond well to this facet of your personality, as this person loves your imagination. A brainstorming session could inspire you. Tonight: Visit with a pal.

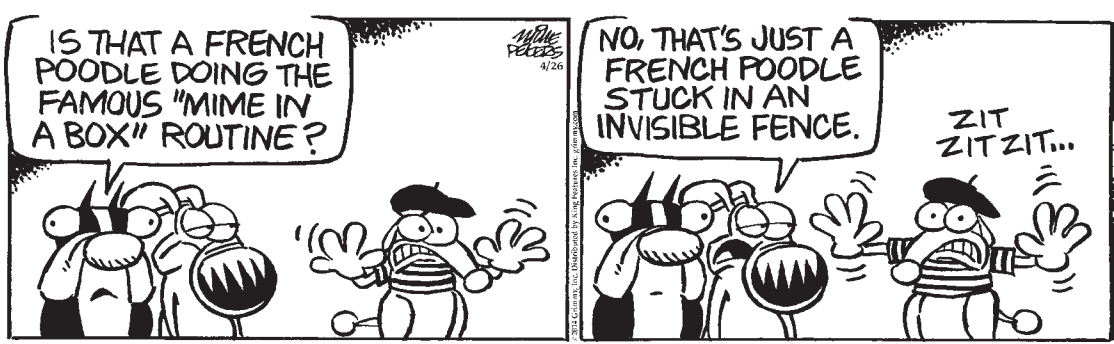
## Tundra



## Shoe



## Mother Goose and Grim



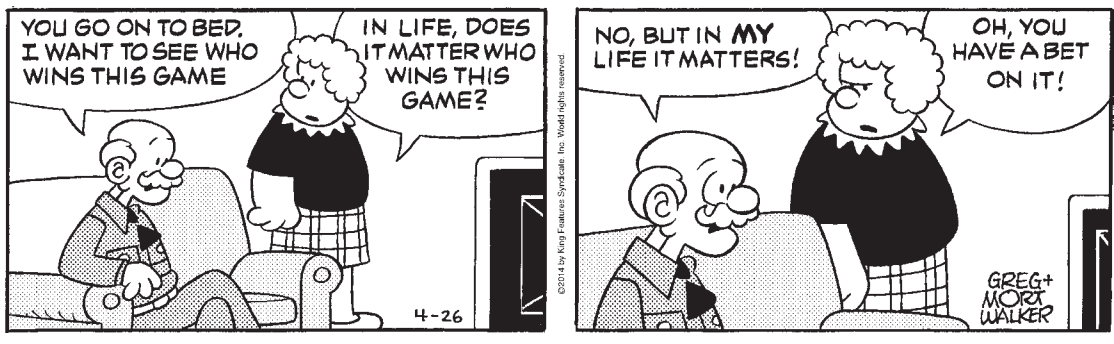
## Zits



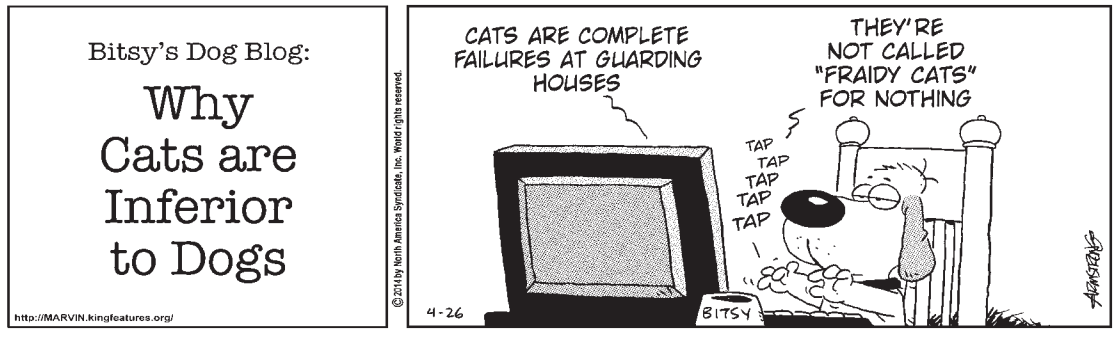
## Garfield



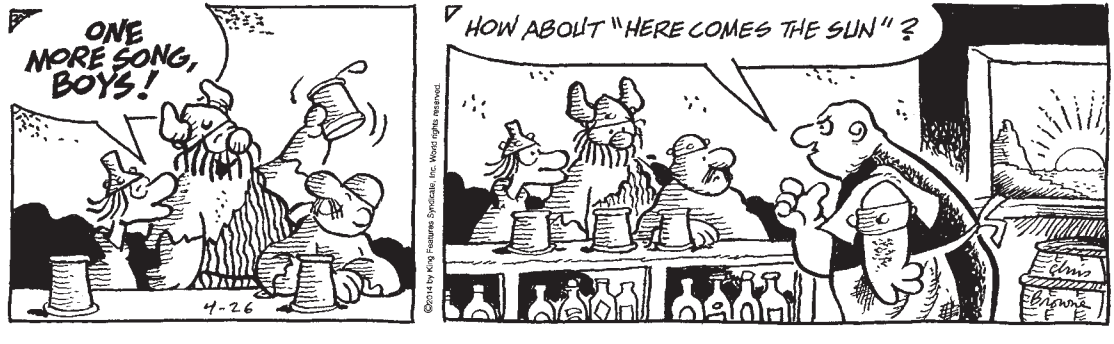
## Beetle Bailey



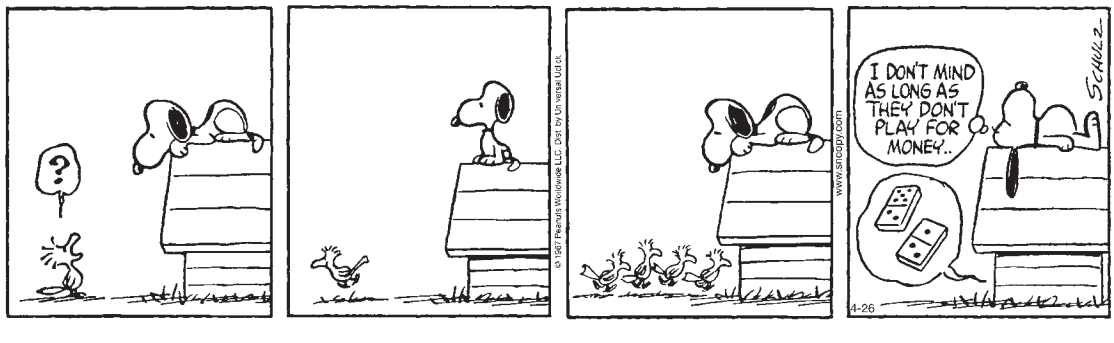
## Marvin



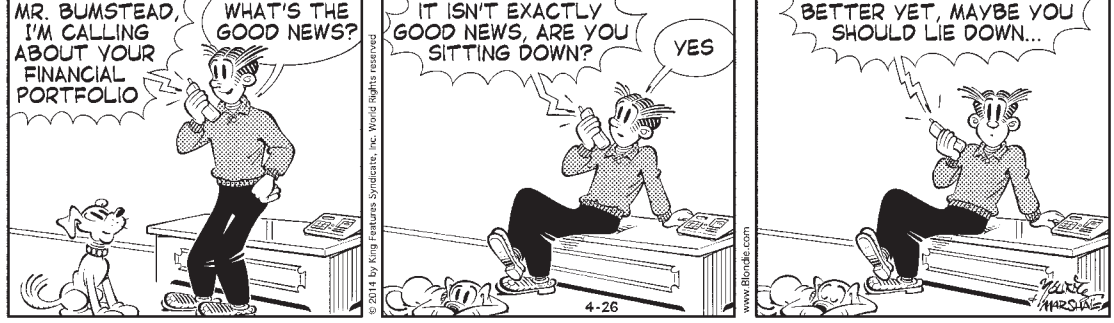
## Hagar The Horrible

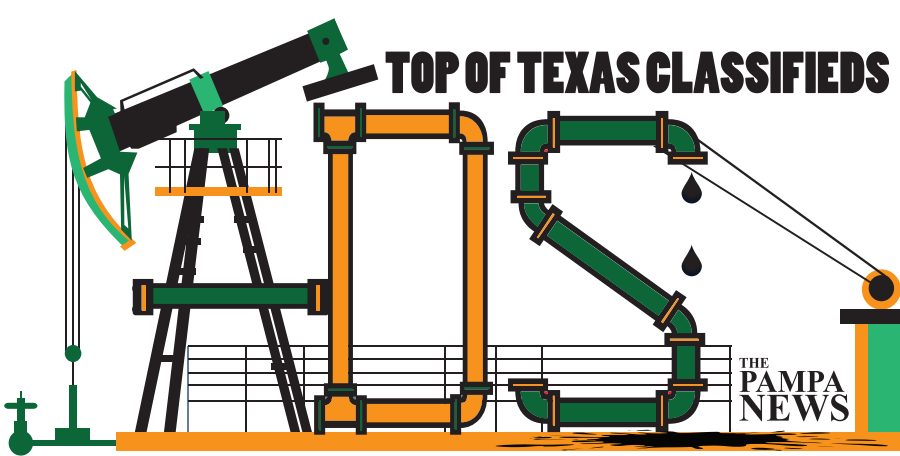


## Peanuts



## Blondie





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A XYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**4-26 CRYPTOQUOTE**

MDY ZOXYFM IGXEJGEY OF  
BVMIL BGKY JS VZ FOBSIY  
JXOBSVFOX E CVWKF.

— EYVWEY YIOVM

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS WRITER'S BLOCK. THAT WAS INVENTED BY PEOPLE IN CALIFORNIA WHO COULDN'T WRITE. — TERRY PRATCHETT

**Happy Ads**  
Happy Birthday SHERY. David, Lindsay and Brandon love you!!

**Lost & Found**  
LOST on 4/22, in 800 bl. N. Gray, tan female French Bulldog. Large scar on left hind. Spayed. 806-663-3973

**Carpentry**  
CUSTOM Building & Remodeling: Kitchens, Bathrooms & Additions. Shawn Deaver Construction, 662-2977

**OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR.** Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

**Situations**  
HOUSECLEANING. Se Limpian Casas. Excellent references. Have openings now. 806-440-4735

**Help Wanted**  
ALLSTATE Security now hiring for a Borger job site Commissioned/Non-Commissioned security guards. Apply at 3433 Plains Blvd. in Amarillo.

**COOK / AIDE (DIETARY)**  
For meal prep. Prefer experienced individual, but will train qualified applicant to prepare meals for special diets. Aide needed for various duties in kitchen & dining room. Must be reliable & dependable. EOE/MFHV. Call Administrator 806-273-3785 or apply in person, BORGER HEALTH CARE CENTER, 1316 South Florida, Borger, TX 79007

**Help Wanted**  
EXPANDING in Pampa! Full & Part time. Personalized training, flexible schedules, unlimited earning potential. 806-355-9007 for apprt.

**FIELD SALES FOR MAJOR OILFIELD SERVICE CO.**  
JOB DESCRIPTION: Sell & service products to rigs, provide product recommendations to clients, obtain drilling data from rig, 24 hour on-call with some weekend relief, work with internal resources to help build sales, provide support to internal engineers. QUALIFICATIONS: College degree preferred but not mandatory, good computer skills, outgoing & aggressive self-starter, ability to work independently as well as be team member, rig experience helpful, physical ability to lift 50 pounds, valid driver's license, pass background check.

Send resume to Box 50, c/o The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa TX 79066-2198

**Help Wanted**  
FLOGISTIX LP, a growing company in the oil and gas service industry, has openings for shop mechanics in their Pampa facility. Experience necessary with opportunity for advancement. We offer competitive pay and benefits including health insurance, 125(c), 401k, incentive bonus plan, paid holidays and vacation. MVR, physical and drug test required. Applications may be picked up at 2538 E. Kentucky; fax resume to 888-812-4114 or email: [jobs@flogistix.com](mailto:jobs@flogistix.com) or mail to P.O. Box 501, Pampa, TX 79066-0501

**FRONT Desk clerical/computer team member** needed in a busy healthcare office. Fax resume to (806) 665-0537.

**Help Wanted**  
McLEAN CARE Center now offering CNA classes. No Charge to applicants with 6 month agreement of employment. Dewayne Atwood, 806-779-2469.

**MECHANIC - INTERMEDIATE**  
Briscoe, TX ONEOK, Inc. is a diversified energy company involved in the acquisition, gathering, processing, transportation and storage of natural gas and natural gas liquids. This position is responsible for servicing, maintaining and repairing equipment. We offer competitive wages and an excellent benefit package. Please visit [www.theonetoworkfor.com](http://www.theonetoworkfor.com) to view additional details about the job requirements and to apply for this position. This position is listed under IRC2495. Only applicants who meet minimum qualifications will be considered. Only those applicants considered for an interview will be contacted. EEO/AA Employer

**Help Wanted**  
PART-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE  
Must have computer skills, be detailed oriented, file, answer phones and work with the public. Must have a High School Diploma or GED. Application forms may be picked up in the District Clerk's Office, third floor Gray County Courthouse.

**CNAS LVNs**  
Immediate openings on various shifts for state certified or licensed professionals. Competitive rates. EOE/MFHV. For more info, call our DON 806-273-3785 or apply in person Mon-Fri-9-4. BORGER HEALTHCARE CENTER 1316 South Florida Borger

**Mac Supply Inc.**

Mac Supply Inc. Electrical Contractors is seeking a team oriented, high energy, organized individual to be an **Inventory Control Specialist** in our growing business. This position requires the knowledge and ability to establish, maintain, communicate and coordinate an inventory management system which will include all procedures from inventory purchases to billing including issuing purchase orders, entering price levels, reporting and billing management. This position requires proficiency in word processing, spreadsheets, and QuickBooks Enterprise

**Qualifications include:**

- Administrative experience
- 2 - 4 year experience in inventory control management systems
- 4 year degree or technical school a plus

We offer great benefits and incentives and the salary will be based on qualifications.

Please send resume to P.O. Box 1157 Pampa, TX 79066 or email [bwaldrip@macsupplyinc.net](mailto:bwaldrip@macsupplyinc.net)

**Plowing/Yard**  
JIMENEZ Multi-service. Yard work, leaf clean-up, cut trees, tree trim, gardening work, fertilizer. Call 669-2618, 886-2027 or 662-3998. Laura

**D&C Greenhouse** is now hiring full and part time sales clerk positions. 806-659-5171

**GREEN Country Equipment** in Pampa has immediate openings for Service Technicians. John Deere experience is a plus. Technicians must have own tools. We offer a performance based wage package, 401k, insurance, vacation and sick leave. Candidate must pass a pre-employment drug screen and MVR. Please apply in person or email resume to [employment@greencountryequip.com](mailto:employment@greencountryequip.com)

**LIFEGUARDS & Pool Manager** needed at Pampa Country Club. Drug free work environment. Apply in person. NO PHONE CALLS

**NANNY** needed for couple with a newborn. Part-time Tues-Thurs 7:30am to 5:30pm and Friday 7:30am to noon. Light cleaning requested while baby sleeps. Please submit resume, references and/or contact information to Box 48, c/o The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066

**Part-time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant** to handle multi-line phone system, greet clients, clerical duties and to assist with administrative duties. Please send resume to Box 39, c/o The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa TX 79066-2198.

**TRUCK DRIVER WANTED**  
Need a truck driver who has a current CDL, good driving record and can pass drug test. We offer competitive wages, 401K, and paid vacation. Apply 8:00-5:00  
**Bourland & Leverich Supply Co**  
11707 Hwy 152 West (Borger Highway)  
BOURLAND & LEVERICH SUPPLY CO. L.L.C.  
No phone calls please.

**FIRST Baptist Church** in Mobeetie is seeking Nursery Worker. Sun. morn. Sun. night, Wed. night, plus special occasions. \$12.00/hr. Send resumes to PO Box 160, Mobeetie TX 79061, Attention: Personnel Committee

**FLOGISTIX LP**, a growing company in the oil and gas industry has openings for ASME code welders & welder fabricators. We offer competitive pay and benefits including health insurance, 125(c), 401k, incentive bonus plan, paid holidays and vacation. Physical and drug test required. Applications may be picked up at 2538 W. Kentucky; Fax resume to 888-812-4114; email [jobs@flogistix.com](mailto:jobs@flogistix.com) or mail to P.O. Box 501, Pampa, TX 79066-0501.

**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**  
Immediate opening for "hands-on" individual for general maintenance throughout the facility including HVAC, light electrical, etc. Nursing facility experience helpful, but not required. EOE/MFHV. For more information call our Administrator at (806) 665-5746, or apply in person at CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER, 1504 w. Kentucky Ave, Pampa.

**CNAS LVNs**  
Join Our Team! All Shifts Available Requires TEXAS state license or certification. Competitive rates and full time employees eligible for benefits. EOE. For more info, call (806) 665-5746 or apply at: CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER 1504 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa

# VEHICLE AUCTION SAT. APRIL 26 -- 10:00 A.M.

LOC. PAMPA, TX – 701 West Brown (Hwy 60/152) From Intersection Of Hwys. 70 & 60/152 (Brown St.) Take Hwy. 60/152 East Approx. 3 or 4 Blks.

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109 W Kingsmill Pampa (806) 665-4883  
[www.pantandlelunshine.com](http://www.pantandlelunshine.com)

**ADMINISTRATOR Healthcare Facilities**  
Coronado Health Care Center, a Skilled Nursing Facility seeks experienced professional to provide leadership as the Facility's CEO. These positions require a healthcare professional with:

- \* Texas Administrator State License;
- \* Thorough familiarity with Texas and Federal regulatory requirements;
- \* Recognizable experience with LTC, and
- \* Ability to build a professional staff.

Must possess superior interpersonal skills, proven management abilities, demonstratable revenue enhancement strategies, and successful survey experience, and ability to thrive and nurture a winning team environment! Excellent salary, benefits & bonus programs. Qualified candidates should send resume with salary history/requirements to:

[sowen@seniorlivingemail.com](mailto:sowen@seniorlivingemail.com) or fax: 281-817-5940  
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Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**OUTREACH Health Services**  
has opening for providers in the PAMPA area to care for the elderly and disabled in their homes. Must be 18+ Will train the right candidate. Please call Mary or Gina at 806-373-0986 or 1-800-800-0697. EOE

**PAMPA ISD Maintenance Dept.** is accepting applications for someone with electrical knowledge and/or HVAC experience. Pay depending on experience. Pampa ISD is an EOC employer.

Parkview Home Health in Wheeler Tx., is seeking FT or Part Time RN, Day Shift. Applications available at front desk, 901 S. Sweetwater, or send resume to [kimw@parkviewhospp.org](mailto:kimw@parkviewhospp.org) or call Kim or Kelly at 806-826-1370

**SIVALLS Inc.** is looking for Welder Fabricators. Must pass weld tests. Drug tests are required. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays, 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa, TX

**TEXAS Farm, LLC**, a growing Pork Production company located in Perryton, Texas is expanding its Animal Production and Production Leadership Team. Do you desire to be part of a progressive company that is focused on Helping Feed the World? Then come by 4200 South Main in Perryton or call 806-435-5935, ext 3100 for Isabel Dominguez or ext 3202 for Shannon Seay or call 806-202-6457 to start pursuing your future today.

THE PAMPA NEWS is looking for a FT Distribution Manager. Duties will include non-subscriber delivery on Tuesdays, picking up old newspapers, delivery to racks and dealers (starting at 5:00 AM) Tuesday thru Saturday and unloading of inserts as needed. Car is provided. \$26,000 per year. Insurance is available. Must be at least 21 and have a clean driving record. Apply at The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison.

TOP PAY For Maintenance Man. Must have valid Driver's License. Apply at 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875

**Health Care Professionals**  
We currently have the following openings:

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- Certified Nurse Aides (2p-10p)

We offer an excellent salary, and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care please email your resume to:

**Wheeler Nursing and Rehabilitation**  
1000 South Kiowa St., • Wheeler, TX 79096  
PH: 806-826-3505 • Fax: 806-826-3195  
ADM.Wheeler@daybreakventure.com

For other job opportunities please visit: [www.daybreakventure.com](http://www.daybreakventure.com)  
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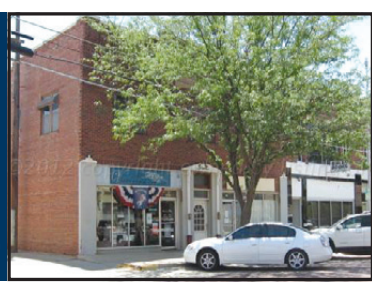


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1715 BEECH	2/2/1 1986 SQFT.	\$93,000
1122 ALCOCK	commercial 3360 SQFT.	\$97,500
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132,133 GREENBELT	7/5/0 3118 SQFT.	\$233,000
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Patti Hudson, Bkr 662-4896 Linda Burt 664-3931  
Scooter Hutchison 440-6061 Dennis Edmondson 662-7503

### Help Wanted

Wheeler Cemetery Assoc. is taking bids for mowing & weed spraying the cemetery this summer. Contact Brenda Sparlin at 806-334-2088

### Pets & Supplies

Multi color bob tail, 17 week old, box trained kittens to give away to good home. Call 662-9174 or 662-3878.

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TEXAS SIZE APTS.  
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Double Lawn Crypt in Memory Gardens.  
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\$350/mo and up.  
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NEW Queen Mattress Set \$246. All sizes on sale. Red Barn 1424 S. Barnes. 665-2767.

APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 665-0995

### Garage Sale

MULTI-FAMILY Garage Sale 2308 Dogwood Saturday 7am-? All proceeds benefit Pampa Patriots baseball.

### PAM APTS

1 Bdrm. Apts. Only  
2 persons maximum.  
Income based rent.  
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669-2594

CAPROCK APTS.  
1, 2 and 3 bedrooms with rent starting as low as \$445/mo. Pool and on-site laundry, W/D hookups in all 2 and 3 bdrms. 665-7149.

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2 & 3 BEDROOM Houses for rent. Great value! 665-1875 or 881-8518

3 BDRM / 2 Bath brick home with one-car garage. Wilson School. (806) 207-0434 or 207-0811.

PICK up rental list in the Black Box at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

### Business Rent. Prop.

DOWNTOWN Properties: Service Station, Retail, Restaurant / Bar, etc. 665-1875, 881-8518

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2419 Cherokee Dr	New Listing \$170,000	3/2/2 2216SF/GCAD
239 Salina St, Borger	\$159,900	4/3.5/2 3608SF/HCAD
1035 N Wells St	Pending \$155,000	3/2/3 2224SF/GCAD
1810 Beech Ln	\$143,300	3/1.75/2 2014SF/GCAD
2725 Cherokee Dr	Pending \$142,500	3/2/2 1813SF/GCAD
1701 Evergreen St	Pending \$138,000	3/1.75/2 2104SF/GCAD
2541 Christine St	\$125,000	3/1.75/2 2050SF/GCAD
2417 Navajo Rd	Call Agent	3/1.75/1 2100SF/Owner
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2724 Navajo Rd	New Price \$88,900	3/1/1 1040SF/GCAD
1701 Coffee St	\$88,500	1/3/0 2032SF/GCAD
210 W 8th St, WD	\$79,000	4/2/2 1950SF/CCAD
1527 N Sumner St	\$72,500	3/1.75/2 1028SF/GCAD
943 E Francis Av	Pending \$63,500	3/1.75/2 1313SF/GCAD
1510 Williston St	\$60,000	4/1.5/1 1404SF/GCAD
306 Galahad St, Borger	\$59,900	3/1.5/2 1827SF/HCAD
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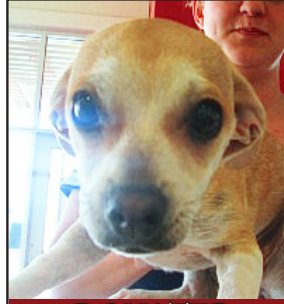



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# Spy plane outlasts Cold War, but not defense cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U-2 spy plane outlasted the Cold War, outlived its successor and proved crucial a half-century ago when two superpowers were on the brink of nuclear war.

But defense cuts now threaten to knock the high-flying reconnaissance aircraft out of the sky.

The Air Force wants to gradually retire the fleet of 32 "Dragon Lady" planes, which can soar to an altitude of 70,000 feet, collect intelligence on North Korea and Russia and rapidly send the data to U.S. commanders. That's a critical capability, given North Korea's unpredictable leader, Kim Jong Un, and Russia's emboldened president, Vladimir Putin.

The Air Force says the unmanned aerial vehicle Global Hawk can do the job, and in an era of smaller, deficit-driven budgets, the Pentagon cannot afford both the plane and the drone.

Skeptical lawmakers have challenged the Air Force's proposal to ground the resilient U-2, the long-winged, all-weather manned aircraft with sensors and cameras.

Called "Angel" at its inception because it could fly so high, the U-2 has been in operation since 1955 and provided the evidence of Soviet missiles in Cuba in 1962, helping to avert a nuclear war.

As Congress begins work next week in writing the defense policy bill, lawmakers will weigh the Air Force proposal and whether to take initial steps to save some of the planes. Any move would require a trade-off as lawmakers work within budget limits. Proponents of the plane recently got a strong endorsement from the top commander in South Korea.

Pressed by Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, about potential gaps with the retirement of the U-2, Army Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti told the Senate Armed Services Committee last month that while he understands the budget requirements, "the U-2 provides some unique capability that at least presently the Global Hawk won't provide, and it will be a loss in intelligence that's very important to our indicators and warnings."

The chairman of the House Armed Services Commit-

tee, Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., said he was concerned about the fate of the U-2, especially in light of the fast-growing population in Seoul pushing close to the border and millions "all within range of North Korean artillery."

Scaparrotti said the plane "gives him the ability to look deep into Korea and the U-2 ... is very important to him," McKeon recently told reporters.

The Air Force is proposing spending \$598 million on the U-2 in the 2015 budget and then phasing out the aircraft, a reversal from two years ago when the plane won out over the drone. The proposed budget would invest \$1.77 billion through 2023 in modernizing a version of the Northrop-Grumman-built Global Hawk with additional sensors and other updates.

"The operating costs on the Global Hawk Block 30 have come down," Pentagon Comptroller Robert Hale told reporters last month. "It was always a close call. Now it comes down in favor of the Global Hawk. We'll keep them and gradually retire the

U-2s."

The Lockheed Martin-built aircraft is long associated with the decades of U.S.-Soviet rivalry.

In 1960, Francis Gary Powers was piloting a U-2 when he was shot down over the Soviet Union and captured. Data collected from planes that penetrated the Soviet Union before the shoot down provided unique information to the Eisenhower administration, undercutting claims of Soviet strength while providing details on the Soviet's nuclear program.

Last August, the National Security Archive at George Washington University released numerous CIA documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act that described the significance of the U-2 program and trace its history.

In a May 28, 1960 memo, Allen Dulles, then the director of Central Intelligence, wrote that before the U-2, the United States was faced "with the constant risk of exposing ourselves to enemy attack or of needlessly expending a great deal of money and effort on misdi-

rected military preparations of our own."

The U-2, Dulles wrote, provided a vast amount of information on Soviet bombers, air defenses, missiles and atomic energy.

Chris Pocock, a British author who has written several books on the U-2, said the plane is still perceived as a "Cold War warrior," but with a relatively new airframe and other modern technology, it's a very different aircraft. It survived and operated even after its successor, the SR71, was retired.

"The U-2 today is more a tactical intelligence gatherer," Pocock said in an interview. "It supports ground operations on a daily basis, flying over Afghanistan, flying around Korea, flying in the eastern Mediterranean, doing all those things every day and it's actually not only providing intelligence that is analyzed for the benefit of those ground troops, but it's actually in contact with those ground troops in real time."

The aircraft is based at Beale Air Force Base in the district of Rep. John Garamendi, D-Calif., a member of the House Armed Services

Committee. Other planes are based in Guam and at classified locations in Europe and in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Within the industry, there is speculation that the Air Force is willing to retire the U-2 because it has a secret program developing another high-altitude intelligence gathering aircraft. Pocock said that plane doesn't appear to be operational yet.

"If and when it is ready it may only be available in small numbers for very, very specific high priority missions," he said.

Two years ago, Congress balked at Air Force efforts to retire a version of the Global Hawk, shifting money in the budget and keeping the program alive. Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dave Deptula said this only complicates Pentagon efforts to decide what weapons stay or go.

"Who's best informed? That's one of the challenges here. This is not just about U-2 and Global Hawk. This is about quite frankly, resource allocation and priorities that Congress is in the middle of and at the heart of," Deptula said.

## Work to free US soldier disorganized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Critics of the U.S. government's nearly five-year effort to seek the release of the only American soldier held captive in Afghanistan claim the work suffers from disorganization and poor communication among numerous federal agencies involved, leaving his captors unclear which U.S. officials have the authority to make a deal.

The shrinking U.S. military footprint in Afghanistan has refocused attention on efforts to bring home Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, of Hailey, Idaho, who has been held by the Taliban since June 30, 2009.

About two dozen officials at the State and Defense departments, the military's U.S. Central Command, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Special Operations Command, the CIA and FBI are working the case — most of them doing it alongside their other duties, a defense official said.

Bergdahl's captors are anxious to release him, according to a defense official and a military officer, who both spoke to The Associated Press only on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case publicly.

"Elements in all echelons — from the top of the Taliban down to the folks holding Bergdahl — are reaching out to make a deal," the defense official said.

The military officer said the effort was marred by distrust on both sides. Those holding Bergdahl have indicated what they would be

willing to do to prove to the U.S. government that they want to deal, but the U.S. has not formally responded to that outreach, the military officer said.

The White House and U.S. military officials deny that the effort is disjointed, claim Bergdahl's release remains a top priority and that the government is using diplomatic, military, intelligence and all other means to free him.

Bergdahl, 28, was last seen in a "proof of life" video released in December. He is thought to be held by members of the Haqqani network, which operates in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region and has been one of the deadliest threats to U.S. troops in the war. The Haqqani network, which the State Department designated as a foreign terrorist organization in 2012, claims allegiance to the Afghan Taliban, yet operates with some degree of autonomy.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., wrote earlier this year to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, saying it was critical that efforts to free Bergdahl are not overcome by bureaucracy.

"Given the significance and necessity for centralized command and control, which I have been informed is little to nonexistent, I urge you to seriously consider the idea of directing an individual to organize, manage and coordinate activity that involves multiple elements of the federal government working toward Bergdahl's release," wrote Hunter, a Marine veteran of both Iraq

and Afghanistan.

Days later, Hagel appointed Michael Lumpkin, assistant defense secretary for special operations and low-intensity conflict, as the point person for the Bergdahl case at the Pentagon. Hunter viewed that as a good step but noted that Lumpkin only has jurisdiction over the Pentagon work, not the other agencies.

A month after Lumpkin's appointment, Hunter wrote President Barack Obama, asking him to make the Defense Department the lead on all efforts to get Bergdahl back "with the specific aim of achieving a faster resolution than can be provided by the Department of State." He also asked Obama to name one coordinator to oversee the entire Bergdahl effort.

The State Department is leading the most publicized approach to getting Bergdahl back — a plan to exchange him for five Taliban detainees at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The department declined comment on Hunter's letters and referred questions to the White House.

"The reason Sgt. Bergdahl remains a captive is because he is being held by a terrorist organization, not because of a lack of effort or coordination by the U.S. government," said Caitlin Hayden,

spokeswoman for the National Security Council.

The defense official and military officer paint a different picture.

When Hagel's office and U.S. Central Command separately learned about the Bergdahl video in December, there was confusion about who should tell the family, the defense official said. The secretary's office ended up informing the family. That angered U.S. Central Command, which believed it had the responsibility to tell the Bergdahls. Neither was communicating with the other about the video notification, the defense official said.



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